

Historic meeting gives force to Napoleonic vision

Thatcher and Mitterrand agree on rail tunnel

The Prime Minister and President Mitterrand gave the go-ahead for a Channel tunnel rail link opening in 1993, with no chance of a road link before 2006.

British Rail, the railway unions and freight organisations welcomed yesterday's announcement while road traffic and Kent environmental interests condemned it.

Building of the 32-mile fixed link with two single-track tunnels will be this country's biggest civil engineering project with immense challenges on meeting time and cost targets.

The Prime Minister and President Mitterrand yesterday gave the go-ahead at an historic summit in Lille, northern France, to a high-speed rail tunnel between Britain and France carrying 30 million passengers a year and opening in the spring of 1993.

But Mrs Thatcher has won the possibility only of a road link to follow, and there is no chance of it being built before the year 2006 at the earliest, with 2020 a more likely date.

The Channel Tunnel Group's project, running from huge terminals at Cheriton, near Folkestone, and Frethun, near Calais, will provide a 30-minute train ride in well-lit and air-conditioned comfort.

Passengers will be able to stay with their vehicles, provision which European countries, the largest cross-Channel operator, described as a serious safety risk.

It is planned to begin operations with 1,000 passengers an hour taking the train, and CTG hopes that up to 4,000 an hour can be carried at peak times on trains running every three minutes.

Mrs Thatcher was greeted amid much pomp by a military band and met by waving children in the streets. After brief talks, the two leaders gave the news at a press conference in the neo-Gothic town hall that the winning projects for the link was the CTG/France Manche consortium, comprising several of Britain's construction companies, for a twin-bore rail tunnel.

Although Mrs Thatcher would have preferred a scheme containing an immediate road link, she said that the successful £2.33 billion project would prove attractive to the public and to transport companies, and was the scheme which stood the best chance of getting financial support.

The group has been granted a monopoly until the year 2020. Mr Michael Gordon, the CTG managing director, said that the group needed exclusivity of

operation for at least 27 years after the planned 1993 starting date. It had ruled out a road link now on grounds of cost and because adequate ventilation systems were not available.

But as part of the agreement still being worked on between the group and the two governments it will have to submit proposals by the year 2000 for a drive-through link.

This would only go ahead provided the technical feasibility of the project is assured, and if the traffic growth is sufficient for it to be financed without undermining the financial returns on the railway tunnel.

If CTG decides it does not want to go ahead and the governments are unhappy with its assessment, they will invite new tenders for the road link. But under the terms of the agreement with CTG, it could not be built until 2020.

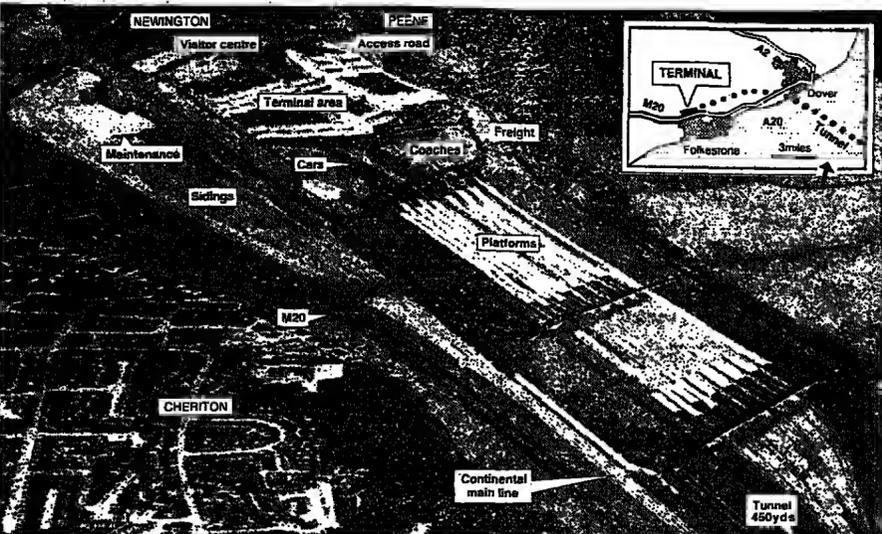
Both Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand said that a road link "should be built". Mrs Thatcher said: "This group will have a monopoly until the year 2020 but long before that, in the year 2000, we hope there will be plans to build a road link."

"We think this is the best way to get a link started and developed. I am quite sure that once the first link comes into existence the demand for more will be so great that the finances, providing the engineering matters have been tackled, will probably be forthcoming."

President Mitterrand said that the historic decision showed an obvious goodwill between the countries and expressed a grand vision for the future.

Mrs Thatcher, who was accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, delivered part of her prepared

speech. She said that the historic decision showed an obvious goodwill between the countries and expressed a grand vision for the future.



Model of the proposed tunnel access terminal and marshalling area near Cheriton, Kent

600 still trapped in war-torn Yemen

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

About 40 Britons were among some 600 foreign nationals trapped in South Yemen as British, French and Soviet ships kept watch off Aden waiting for an opportunity to pluck them to safety.

The Defence Ministry said the Royal Yacht Britannia, which has evacuated more than 600 people to two rescue missions, would remain in the area as long as needed.

The ship due in Auckland for the start of the Queen's tour of New Zealand on February 22, had to leave the Gulf of Aden by the middle of this week to get there in time for her arrival.

The fighting, which has been going on for the past eight days, leaving about 9,000 people dead or wounded, was reported to be subsiding yesterday. But most communications were still cut, and radio broadcasts gave conflicting accounts about which faction was gaining the upper hand.

According to Aden radio, President Ali Nasser Muhammad, who had been head of state since 1980, has been overthrown and the Politburo

of the Marxist Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) had taken control. However, another transmitter was broadcasting messages of support for President Muhammad, who was said to be on his way back to Aden from Addis Ababa, where he had gone for talks at the end of last week.

About 3,500 foreigners have been evacuated in British, Soviet and French ships since the fighting began.

Most of the remaining foreigners are believed to be in two large groups. One is trapped near Little Aden, where the oil refinery has been set ablaze.

The other group has gathered at the port of Al Mukallah, about 220 miles east of Aden. The Royal Navy was keeping in touch with those stranded on shore by radio links provided by HMS Newcastle and the Jupiter.

Mr Nicholas Sheppard, the British vice-consul in Aden, is on board the Newcastle and has been acting as the communications link between the Britannia and people awaiting evacuation.

Britons look back with pride

By Colin Hughes

The first 24 Britons to be evacuated from a civil-war-ravaged South Yemen by the Royal Yacht Britannia flew into London yesterday, to describe how patriotic pride and cool British humour pulled them through their week-long ordeal.

After a tearful welcome from family and friends, the British Embassy staff and staff and expatriates lavished praise on their rescuers, and smiled in retrospect at memories of the Royal Marine band on board Britannia playing Glenn Miller on deck while Aden burned.

A British Embassy security officer modestly told of how he single-handedly disarmed nine Yemeni soldiers who sought refuge inside the embassy compound. Others spent days with rats in cellars, dug foxholes in their back gardens to shelter from tank and artillery fire, or fought flames when the Aden Hotel was hit by shells.

But all were stunned by the unexpected sight of the Royal Yacht herself appearing off the evacuation beach 30 miles north of Aden.

Continued on back page, col 1

Army coup topples Jonathan

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The Government of Chief Leabua Jonathan, Prime Minister of Lesotho, was replaced yesterday by a military regime headed by Major-General Justin Lekhanya, commander of the small mountainous kingdom's 1,500-man army, known as the Para-Military Force.

Radio Lesotho said: "The normal activity of the Government would temporarily be the responsibility of a Military Council headed by General Lekhanya, with the assistance of the principal secretaries of government departments. Chief Jonathan and his Cabinet ministers have been dismissed. An army officer, said they were in their homes, but were out under house arrest."

King Moshoeshoe II will continue to act as head of state. Reaction in Lesotho to the overthrow of Chief Jonathan, who had ruled the country autocratically and at times ruthlessly for 20 years, was generally enthusiastic. Large crowds of mainly young people ran through the main street of Maseru, the kingdom's small capital, chanting and singing "Away with Leabua".

On Sunday evening, Chief Jonathan had declared on television that he was "in complete control".

It is thought the little-known General Lekhanya will be less hostile towards Pretoria, and likely to take tougher action against the African National Congress in Lesotho.

Jonathan's errors, page 7

Pym leads attack on 'unfair' rates

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Mr Francis Pym, the former Cabinet minister, led the Conservative backbench onslaught last night against the Government's allocation of rate-support grant to local councils.

He gave a warning that the proposed settlement, which is shifting resources away from shire counties to inner city areas, would lead to "substantial and unavoidable" rate increases in counties throughout East Anglia unless services were cut in a "wholly unacceptable and unwise way".

Mr Pym was cheered by fellow Conservatives when he said the allocation of grant to shires was "unfair because it penalises authorities that have been careful, that have shown good management and have responded positively to the Government's policy of reducing expenditure".

The Association of County Councils, which took the unprecedented step of recommending all MPs to vote against the grant settlement, has calculated the net loss to shire areas is £274 million.

Mr Pym told Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, that in East Anglia it was expected rates would go up by three to five times the rate of inflation.

He said the Government was right to be providing an extra £300 million for inner cities and urban areas, but it was unfair that it should be paid for entirely by the shire counties.

Parliament, page 4

Weinstock was told of threat to bid

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Lord Weinstock, managing director of GEC, was warned by Sir Raymond Lygo, chief executive of British Aerospace, that the GEC bid for Plessey could be affected by his company's backing of a European consortium offer for a stake in Westland.

The GEC bid was yesterday referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

But in an alleged additional note of the events of January 8 - when Sir Raymond met Mr Brittan and misunderstood the minister's message on BAE participation in the European consortium - Sir Raymond said that he received a phone call from Lord Weinstock after the BAE board meeting had ended, just before 10 pm.

Sir Raymond is reported to have told Lord Weinstock that he had had "an unpleasant interview with the Secretary of State", and that in view of his

concern with the department's attitude over a referral on the Plessey affair, he Lord Weinstock should be aware that Sir Raymond had been told that "what we were doing was not in the national interest".

Mr Brittan said that it was in the national interest that the present uncertainty over Westland's future be ended as soon as possible.

Lord Weinstock said that he thought it was essential that I should write to the Prime Minister to give my side of the events so that the episode could not be used subsequently to Britain to damage the interests of British Aerospace.

Sir Raymond's further account had originally been part of his report on the meeting with Mr Brittan, but it was edited out of the "full transcript" sent to the Prime Minister by Sir Austin Pearce, the BAE chairman.

GEC to sue Plessey

As Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary for Trade and Industry announced that he was referring GEC's £1.2 billion bid for Plessey to the monopolies commission, GEC said it was launching a libel action against its target company (Patience Wheatcroft writes).

Plessey, led by Sir John Clark, its chairman, has been fiercely opposed to a takeover by GEC. Although takeover tactics in the City have become increasingly hard hitting, Plessey's defence document was one of the most outspoken yet.

It is this which contains the alleged libels. GEC claims that the document "contains false and misleading statements" which are seriously defamatory. Its objections centre on two quotations included in the document, one an extract from a stockbroker's report Plessey will be defending the writ. Kenneth Fleet, page 19

Ministers face revolt over rail-only link

By Stephen Goodwin

Conservative opponents of the rail-only Channel Tunnel yesterday warned the Government that it could face serious difficulties in getting the necessary legislation for the scheme through Parliament.

Opposition from within the Government's own ranks comes from Conservatives who are against any form of link and also those who want a road included from the start. The latter are widely believed to form a majority of the party's MPs.

Their opportunity to change the rail-only plan, endorsed by the French and British Governments, is likely to arise during the committee stage of a tunnel Bill to be introduced in Parliament before Easter.

The Bill will be dealt with under the "hybrid" procedure that enables a small committee to take evidence from groups and individuals who feel their interests are affected by the proposals. How wide a net the committee should draw is largely determined by its own membership, but it could decide to hear rival schemes.

At any stage in the passage of the Bill, which is expected to take a full year, it could be amended to include a road element either from the start or at an earlier stage than provided for in the Anglo-French agreement.

Mr Robert McCrindle, Conservative MP for Brentwood and Ongar, said yesterday that a sizeable majority of his colleagues would prefer a road tunnel. Another dozen or so are implacable opponents of any cross-Channel link.

Any amendment to include a road element to the scheme at this stage would undoubtedly annoy the French who regard the British procedures for the scheme as far too protracted.

Mr McCrindle, however, thinks the Government will have not only delay but outright opposition to the present proposal.

In the Commons, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, defused anger amongst East Kent MPs, all Conservatives, by announcing that a joint committee is to set up to look into fears aroused by the scheme.

The merger would create a new force in the international drinks market with a portfolio of leading brand names from the Scotch whisky, gin and brewing industries, including Arthur Bell, Dewar's, Johnnie Walker, Haig, Gordon's and Harp Lager.

The offer first has to pass a possible Monopolies and Mergers Commission reference which Mr Gulliver said was "inevitable" because Guinness already owned the Arthur Bell whisky business.

Guinness in £2.2bn bid for Distillers

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Guinness, the brewer, yesterday entered the battle for control of Distillers with a £2.2 billion agreed takeover bid for the Scotch drinks group. The bid was the largest made in Britain.

Distillers directors, who have been fighting a near £2 billion offer from Argyle, Mr James Gulliver's supermarkets and food manufacturing group, welcomed the Guinness move.

One inside source said: "It's like the cavalry coming over the hill."

But Mr Ernest Saunders, the Guinness chief executive, said he was confident the Govern-



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Rate rise pressure as pound slides

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Government is faced with a stark choice between pushing up the cost of borrowing, including mortgage rates, and letting the pound slide.

The pound fell sharply yesterday, as oil prices weakened. North Sea oil for delivery in April changed hands at \$19.58 a barrel. As recently as November, North Sea oil was trading at \$30 a barrel.

The pressure is intensifying for a rise in bank base rates. This would trigger an increase in mortgage rates, now 12.75 per cent.

The Group Five finance ministers, who met in London at the weekend, failed to produce a strong commitment to reduce interest rates worldwide.

Falling oil prices will put pressure on the pound and reduce the room for tax cuts in the Budget.

The pound fell by 2.27 cents to \$1.4158 and by more than four pennings to DM3.4994. The sterling index fell from 77.9 to 76.9.

Mr David Morrison, currency economist with the stockbroking firm of Simons & Coates, said: "It's looking pretty bad. There may be no escape from the oil price war. We could be looking at a 1½ to 2 point base rate rise."

When base rates last rose, from 11½ to 12½ per cent on January 8, sharp increases in money market interest rates occurred but the pound held up generally well.

Yesterday, the pound fell back to levels below which foreign exchange dealers had expected the Bank of England to step in and support it.

It appears that the Bank, with the agreement of the Treasury, is trying to weather the oil price storm by allowing the pound to slide temporarily, rather than push interest rates up again. Officials believe that nothing fundamental has changed since the last rise in base rates.

A rise in base rates, and hence mortgage rates, as well as representing a considerable political blow for the Chancellor would upset his cosy inflation outlook. Inflation is on course to drop to about 3½ per cent by the summer, but a rise in home loan costs would keep the rate up around 4½ per cent.

Tomorrow, the banks will be taking up the second part of a special money market facility offered by the Bank of England. Clearing bank officials say a move on base rates is unlikely until after then.

Share prices fell sharply on fears of higher borrowing costs. The FT industrial ordinary share index dropped by 12.6 points to 1,106.1.

Manufacturing output rose by 0.7 per cent, to its best level since February 1980.

Kenneth Fleet, page 19

HARRODS SALE

Great Reductions on Bedding

Table listing bedding items with columns for Harrods Original Price and Sale Price. Items include Divan and Mattress Sets, Imperial, Chesterfield, and Herald Supreme.

Bedding, Sewing, Floor, Carriage free within our own delivery area. All reductions are from Harrods previous prices.

Until 1st February 1986, interest-free Credit Agreements with 10 monthly payments, including deposit, are available on selected items over £250. See example given. Ask for written details.

Sale Opening Hours: 11am Sat to 6pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am to 5pm, Wed 9am to 7pm, Sat 9am to 6pm.



THE TIMES Tomorrow

- Philippines poll: The voting thriller in Manila. Founding feminist Marilyn French, surviving the sex war. Hillsborough: Protestants head for a resounding 'no'. Wheeler-dealer: How racing cyclist Tony Doyle pedals 30,000 miles a year.

Portfolio

There were three winners of yesterday's Times Portfolio competition. Mr J. Mansson of Kingston Upon Thames, Mrs P. Miles of Aylesbury, Bucks, and Mr G. Walker of Banbury, Oxon, each receive £500. Portfolio list, page 22; how to play, information service, back page.

US cash aid expected for Ireland

Economic aid from the United States worth a possible \$500 million (£352 million) for Ireland is expected to be announced next month. Mr John Hume, SDLP leader, said yesterday that the package was likely to be voted through Congress in February.

25% rate rise

Wiltshire County Council's finance committee agreed yesterday to recommend a rates rise of 25.9 per cent, from 147p to 185p.

Labour strategy

Mr Neil Kinnock, launching a series of speeches setting out Labour's policy for the next election, described the philosophy for production, directing investment into manufacturing.

Peres here

Continuing his European shuttle, Israel's Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres arrives in London today but with no sign yet of a dramatic Middle East breakthrough.

Antarctic bill

The private-British Antarctic expedition pledged to pay a £21,000 bill towards the cost of its rescue by the Americans.

Film détente

Hollywood came to a tiny, broken-down Polish town to make an American-Polish co-production that may start a small revolution in film-making.

Militant curbs

Leaders of the Civil and Public Services Association are drawing up rule changes to reduce the influence of Militant Tendency in the union.

Soviet visit

Mr Edvard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has been invited to visit Britain in March. The date was discussed during talks with Mr Nikita Ryzhov, a Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, in London.



£10,000 refusal

Mr Richard Needham, Under-Secretary of State at the Northern Ireland Office, has refused to pay about £10,000 losses on a Lloyd's syndicate because of a special agreement.

Table of crossword puzzle answers: Across 1-12, Down 1-12.

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# Industry must tap Japanese firms' methods Kinnock says

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, yesterday launched a series of key speeches which will give the broad outlines of the party's next election manifesto by putting forward a "philosophy for production" based on a big investment programme in the manufacturing industry.

Labour, he believes, should not be afraid of embracing aspects of the Japanese industrial model which could be applied to Britain and could provide a solution to the "conundrum" of labour costs and employment possibilities.

In the speech in London to the Industrial Society, Mr Kinnock said that the process of economic recovery and reconstruction of the country's manufacturing base would require a huge investment effort which could not be left to market forces.

Direction of investment needed to be agreed with a new Government, with a National Investment Bank making available the funds needed.

The speeches by the Labour leader and several of his front bench colleagues are designed to set out the party's alternative programme for industrial and economic development to emphasize the need for a strong manufacturing industry.

The party leadership is also keen to give a warning against optimism about large and immediate cuts in unemployment if the strategy were implemented and will instead explain that Labour's programme is the best hope for longer-term cuts in unemployment.

Mr Kinnock said that the social solidarity strategy operated by the Japanese to reduce

# Channel rail tunnel choice splits unions and industry

By Gregory Neale

Politicians, industry, trade unions and environmentalists were divided yesterday in their reaction to the announcement by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Mitterrand of the Channel rail tunnel.

British Rail rail unions and freight organizations welcomed the decision, while road traffic interests, including the Transport and General Workers' Union, condemned it.

Environmental groups announced a continuing campaign against the project, which they said would damage east Kent.

In the county, traders in Dover and neighbouring areas predicted increased unemployment and declining business, particularly for the harbour and ferry trade.

The Conservative Party in the county was also split, with one councillor saying the decision would rebound electorally against the Government.

British Rail welcomed the decision, and said hourly train services from London would reach Paris in three and a quarter hours.

On Southern Region, improvements in infrastructure will total £1.5 billion, including a new passenger terminal at Waterloo.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said: "The rail workers are eager to make this imaginative venture a resounding success."

The road lobby greeted the announcement with varying degrees of disappointment, and calls for road investment.

The Automobile Association said a chance had been missed to create a fixed link suitable for increasing private and commercial road traffic.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the transport workers' union, said the scheme "will destroy far more jobs in the long term than it would create in the short term."

The British Road Federation said that for the Channel tunnel to function effectively, new road construction was vital in Kent and around London.

The M25 would need improvement, a gap between Ashford and Maidstone on the M20 would have to be built at a cost of £50 million, and improvements made in London to the A2, the A20 and the A23, the federation said.

Mr Alan Sibbe, president of Dover Chamber of Commerce, and a former merchant banker, said the project would cause "the collapse of the local economy" and increasing bankruptcies, unless the Government provided about £300 million aid for the area, similar to that being offered by the French authorities to the Pas de Calais district.

Mr Tony Hart, leader of Kent County Council, said in a statement jointly issued by the councils in Dover, Shepway, Ashford, Thanet and Canterbury: "The fixed link offers opportunities for Kent, but only if there is a determination at local and national level to make sure the county reaps the benefits, not just the drawbacks."

Mr Jonathan Sloggett, managing director of the Dover Harbour Board, said that a planned £75 million development programme at the port would go ahead, and thought that ferries would be able to compete with a fixed link.

But Mr Jim Slater, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, said: "Mrs Thatcher has signed a death sentence for 5,000 British seamen's jobs."



Mr Nigel Snape on the farmland he leases at Hockley Sole, near Folkestone. "The villagers are very angry" (Photograph: John Manning)

# No rejoicing where the excavators will bite

Angry seamen, worried about losing their jobs, and villagers more than 100 juggernauts across the Channel.

The seamen expect an all-out ferry fare war with Channel crossing prices being cut by up to 50 per cent in the next few years.

"The new generation of Townsend ferries will be able to compete with the tunnel but for how long?" Mr Smith, who has spent 18 years at sea, said.

Mr Keith Catterick, a radio officer with Sealink, who has 20 years' seagoing experience, said that the tunnel would bring only mass unemployment.

"The Government claims the public will have a cross-Channel choice" but how will they if the ships have been put out of business?" he asked.

For Mr Ray McLaren of the

Morehall public house in Cheriton, where the tunnel entrance will be built, the project is a blessing. "It will bring me more business, but I don't think it will upgrade Cheriton."

He believes the Channel Tunnel Group's scheme is the best survival plan offered to Dover and Folkestone.

Meanwhile, farmers and villagers in Newington, Peene and Danton, on the route of the proposed road, are angry.

Mr Jeremy Lamb, a tax consultant, and his wife, Patricia, moved from Lamberhurst, a fifteenth-century house in Peene, Kent, to escape the noise from the A20 trunk road. Now they have learnt that the tunnel link road will be built outside their front gate.

"We are devastated. The title searches showed no evidence of the proposed scheme, but a day after we arrived here last August, the local villagers and farmers told us the bad news", Mr Lamb said. Dozens of council and public meetings had failed to halt the plans.

Mr Lamb said that Mr Michael Howard, the Conservative MP for Folkestone and Hythe, had ignored the feelings of villagers and farmers.

Mr Nigel Snape, a farmer from Folkestone, faces the prospect of a section of the tunnel running under 65 acres of land he leases. One farmer would lose more than 300 acres.

"The villagers are very angry," he added, but did not think that there should be a public inquiry.

Gordon said that they would account for less than 10 per cent of turn of income but he still expected "like treatment" to that afforded to competitors.

In spite of assurances from European Ferries that it would not launch a price war, increasingly competitive cross-Channel rates now seem certain. CTG is planning to undercut the present discounted ferry rates by 10 per cent and, at today's prices, offer a one-way ticket for a car and three people of £40-£50.

European Ferries, which operates Townsend Thoresen, said that it had already promised a fare of £20-£30 should the tunnel go ahead. The company has ordered two new jumbo ferries, each carrying 700 cars and 2,400 passengers but with operating costs equal to ships half the size.

Mr James Sherwood, chairman of Sealink British Ferries which has proposed a combined road and rail link, launched an outspoken attack on the tunnel scheme, which offered marginal improvement only on the ferries. Most motorists wanted a drive-through solution and the decision should be "nipped in the bud".

Mr Sherwood said later he had been assured that if the socialists lost the next French election, the decision would be reversed. He took sustenance from the fact that President Mitterrand preferred a road link and he considered it unlikely that the rail shuttlelink would ever be built.

The tunnel will prove a big advantage to British industry, according to the Confederation of British Industry (Derek Harris writes).

This welcome for a fixed link was echoed elsewhere in industry and commerce, in spite of some regional worries that more businesses may relocate to the South-east, and possibly north-ern France.

Continued from page 1

speech in French, a move designed to underline the harmony of the occasion.

"It is a great day," she said. "Today means we are embarking with determination to build this link. It is not only the link itself, it means something symbolic between Britain and France."

She spoke of the "genuine concern" about the link in the areas most directly affected, Kent and the Nord-Pas de Calais in France. The two governments had looked carefully at the environmental consequences and were confident that the winning scheme could be carried out without damage.

The CTG's scheme got the vote over the Channel Expressway plan for a combined road/rail solution, supported until the later stages by Mrs Thatcher, but strongly disliked by the French, and the £5 billion EuroRoute project for a combined bridge and tunnel roadway.

The joint communique issued yesterday said that the choice had been "particularly difficult".

The timing of the announcement was dictated by President Mitterrand who wanted it in time for the French parliamentary elections on March 16. Mrs Thatcher regards the expected start on building in 1987 as a potential electoral boost.

The link, to be used by British Rail and the French railway SNCF, will create more than 40,000 jobs in the two countries.

The crucial issue of duty-free sales on the trains has yet to be decided by the European Commission, which in any case want to abolish concessions throughout the Community.

Duty-free goods, available only on sea or air routes, account for about 30 per cent of the ferry company revenues. Mr

concerned my position with them is finalized. I don't want to get involved with them again.

"They said: 'Ah well, this is because there's some complicated deal that's been cobbled up between Needham because he happened to be involved with the Lloyd's Bill and because he's an MP and one thing and another'."

Following publication of a report in *The Observer* in April 1984, Mr Needham said that he had thought to himself: "Well, it's only a matter of time that they're now going to try to suggest that there is some connection between what I said in Parliament..."

Mr Needham, who was a backbencher at the time, spoke on the second reading in 1981 of the Lloyd's Bill, private legislation giving the insurance market powers of self-regulation, and again on the third reading in 1982.

As a member of Lloyd's he did not vote on the Bill in the Commons, and it was stated yesterday that he reached his agreement with Laurence Phi-

# Electricians face double pressure on discipline

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

The electricians' union will come under fresh pressure tomorrow on two fronts when it faces calls for disciplinary action which could lead to its suspension or expulsion from the TUC.

The inner cabinet of the TUC, the finance and general purposes committee, yesterday proposed that Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, put a complaint from the National Union of Mineworkers to Mr Eric Hammond, the electricians' leader.

The NUM's complaining that the EETPU's continued contact with the breakaway Union of Democratic Mineworkers is detrimental to the interests of the trade union movement.

The general council will also be under pressure from the four other unions in the printing industry, the National Graphical Association, Sogat 82, the National Union of Journalists, and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, to begin immediate disciplinary steps against the electricians' union over its proposed talks with News International.

The four unions are arguing that the electricians' union is in breach of the TUC's formal advice not to reach a separate agreement with News International covering the company's Wapping plant and to join in a common approach by all the unions.

Mr Willis, who will report tomorrow to the general council on his failure to persuade News International, on Sunday, to reopen talks with the main print unions, told the inner cabinet yesterday that he would be considering what advice to give the general council on any possible action against the electricians' union, over the News International issue.

The union argues that it has not breached formal advice not to secure a separate agreement since it has promised that the executive will consider the outcome of any negotiations with the TUC before reaching an agreement.

Meanwhile, the NGA and Sogat will tonight announce the voting results of their members at News International's four newspapers. They are hoping for a mandate for industrial action against the company.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said after yesterday's TUC meeting that the union was still pursuing discussions on its agreement with TNT, the distribution company used to ensure supplies to London retailers at the weekend of the 24-page supplement produced at Wapping and included in *The Sunday Times*.

Mr Todd said the union had an agreement with the company but was seeking not to do "anything which is in conflict with the interests of the print unions concerned."

# Deselection was 'revenge for opposing Benn'

By Anthony Bevin and Tim Jones

Mr Michael Cocks, Labour's former chief whip in the Commons, was dropped as party candidate for Bristol South-East in revenge for his opposition to his own party's deselection of Mr Tony Benn in what was alleged yesterday.

He said that he had been deselected as Labour candidate, after 16 years as a Bristol MP, because he had defeated Mr Benn for the Bristol South-East nomination in 1983. "The knives were out", Mr Cocks said, "and I knew they would get me."

Friends of Mr Cocks last night accused Mr Benn's backers of conducting "a carefully orchestrated vendetta" to deselect the right-wing MP.

The election of Mrs Dawn Primarolo, aged 31, an Avon county councillor, to represent Labour at the next election by 71 votes to 56, has been hailed as a victory for the hard left in the constituency party is now bitterly divided.

# Girl cleared of murdering her father

A young woman who stabbed her drunken father to death after he bit and taunted her was cleared of murder yesterday but found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to four years' youth custody.

Karen Tyler, aged 20, of Colchester, Essex, told Chelmsford Crown Court that she had feared for her life when she plunged the eight-inch knife into her father.

The court was told that she meant only to give her father, George Tyler, aged 45, a warning after an argument involving her mother. She was charged with murder in September 1984 but released on bail.

The judge, Mr Justice McCowan, told her: "I accept that you were subjected to pressures that day. But it was not extreme provocation and you suffered no serious injuries."

# Unionists' campaign under fire

By Richard Ford

More than 400 prominent Northern Ireland academics, businessmen, clergymen and professional people today publish an open letter, deeply hostile to the Unionist Party's "Ulster Says No" by-election campaign.

The names and money to pay for the letter published in two Belfast morning newspapers and tonight's evening paper were gathered in seven days despite the fear that by going public they could put themselves and perhaps their businesses at risk from militant Unionists.

Their implicit message to the Government is that there are many in the province, particularly among the Unionist community, who are concerned at the tone and direction of the "beyond" campaign to wreck the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Today's advertisements have been organized by the Northern Ireland consensus group, a body formed four years ago by a group of solicitors from both sides of the sectarian divide.

# ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS IN MEDICAL RESEARCH

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# Project will 'make ties stronger'

The following is the text of the joint communique issued by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Mitterrand after their talks on a Channel fixed link.

Today, January 20, 1986, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and the President of France agreed to facilitate the construction of a fixed link across the English Channel.

This decision follows the meetings of November 30, 1984, and November 18, 1985, and the issuing of the invitation to promoters for the financial, construction and operation of a fixed link without support from public funds or government financial guarantees.

The completion of this major project will be a landmark in the development of the relations between the United Kingdom and France and of Europe as a whole.

It testifies to the willingness of the two countries to strengthen their economic, political and cultural ties and to demonstrate to future generations an example of imagination and enterprise for peaceful purposes.

It will represent a vital link in the European transport network. A project of this magnitude will have a significant economic impact in both countries, both in terms of employment and of technological development.

The quality of the proposals received from all the promoters, drawing upon some of the most important financial institutions and companies of the two countries, has made the governments' choice of a future link particularly difficult.

The enthusiasm with which each project has been promoted has gone far beyond the simple defence of commercial interests. The symbolic nature of the project has contributed substantially to the wish of the

industrial and financial enterprises of the two countries to be associated with it.

The governments were advised in their decision by an assessment group, in which more than 100 experts on each side of the Channel participated.

The governments have made their choice on the basis of the criteria set out in the invitation to promoters. They have concluded that the project to be selected must be one that is among other things technically feasible, safe and attractive for users, and environmentally acceptable.

The project envisaged is the twin rail tunnel providing for the passage of both through trains and shuttle trains for road vehicles presented by the Anglo-French partnership, Channel Tunnel Group/France Manche.

The two governments have decided to facilitate this project, if it is able to mobilize the investment necessary.

A concession agreement will thus be agreed with this group for the financing, constructing and operation of this scheme.

The governments expect construction to begin in 1987 and the link to be ready for operation in 1993.

Furthermore, the promoters have undertaken to submit to the governments, by the year 2000, a proposal for a drive-through link. It is envisaged that this would be undertaken as soon as the technical feasibility is assured and economic circumstances and the growth of traffic are such as to permit it to be financed without understanding the return on the first link.

The next stage in the project will be the signature of a treaty between the two countries and the conclusion of a concession agreement between the governments and the concessionaire. Signature of the treaty will take place in London in February.

# Rail tunnel approved at meeting in Lille

Continued from page 1

The joint communique issued yesterday said that the choice had been "particularly difficult".

The timing of the announcement was dictated by President Mitterrand who wanted it in time for the French parliamentary elections on March 16. Mrs Thatcher regards the expected start on building in 1987 as a potential electoral boost.

The link, to be used by British Rail and the French railway SNCF, will create more than 40,000 jobs in the two countries.

The crucial issue of duty-free sales on the trains has yet to be decided by the European Commission, which in any case want to abolish concessions throughout the Community.

Duty-free goods, available only on sea or air routes, account for about 30 per cent of the ferry company revenues. Mr

concerned my position with them is finalized. I don't want to get involved with them again.

"They said: 'Ah well, this is because there's some complicated deal that's been cobbled up between Needham because he happened to be involved with the Lloyd's Bill and because he's an MP and one thing and another'."

Following publication of a report in *The Observer* in April 1984, Mr Needham said that he had thought to himself: "Well, it's only a matter of time that they're now going to try to suggest that there is some connection between what I said in Parliament..."

Mr Needham, who was a backbencher at the time, spoke on the second reading in 1981 of the Lloyd's Bill, private legislation giving the insurance market powers of self-regulation, and again on the third reading in 1982.

As a member of Lloyd's he did not vote on the Bill in the Commons, and it was stated yesterday that he reached his agreement with Laurence Phi-

# Minister refuses to pay Lloyd's syndicate losses

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Mr Richard Needham, Under-Secretary of State at the Northern Ireland Office, has refused to pay losses of about £10,000 on a Lloyd's insurance syndicate.

He was placed on aviation syndicate 244 when he joined Lloyd's in 1979.

He had been promised that he would be put on "safe and sound" syndicates, but by the time syndicate 244 was wound up in 1981 by Laurence Phillips, the managing agent, total losses were estimated at about £5 million, to be shared among the "names" on the syndicate list.

Mr Needham refused to pay his share of the losses, which eventually amounted to about £21,000, because of his "safe and sound" agreement.

He told *The Times* that that agreement and his refusal to pay the full amount has provoked a campaign of "lies and innuendo" against him.

It had been alleged that there was a link between the Laurence Phillips deal and his Commons involvement in the Lloyd's Bill

enacted in 1982, which he described as a "monstrous" defamation.

Mr Needham said: "When they came to me after three years, or whatever it was, and said to me: 'You pay up', I said: 'I'm not paying up. You told me I'd be on safe and sound syndicates'."

"I came to an arrangement with them, and I think the total amount I've paid them so far, all in all, amounts to about £1,000 or £12,000. 'I can't remember what the figures are in terms of cheques I wrote out to them; there were several thousands of pounds.'"

Mr Needham was reluctant to talk about the precise terms of the deal reached with Laurence Phillips, but said that part of his payment was covered by tax rebates for losses. He also indicated that he had paid losses based on the national membership of a "safe and sound" syndicate.

"I didn't pay 244," he said. "It was based upon me being in a syndicate which Laurence Phillips had originally told me



Mr Richard Needham, who has refused to pay losses.

they would put me in, and didn't."

Others in 244 were promised also that they would be placed in reasonable syndicates. One name was told he would be put on "relatively conservative, middle-of-the-road performers." When those members of 244 decided to take action against Laurence Phillips, they asked Mr Needham to join them.

Mr Needham told *The Times*: "I said: 'I've left Laurence Phillips. As far as I'm

tips only in May 1982, more than two months after the Bill had gone to the House of Lords from the Commons.

Nevertheless, Mr Needham had all his papers checked by a lawyer acting for the aggrieved members of 244. The lawyer told Mr Needham that his conduct had been above reproach.

It had also been alleged at a private meeting, in front of other MPs, that I had been introducing names to Lloyd's and getting commissions out of it, and as a result of that Laurence Phillips had been able to satisfy me as far as my losses on 244 were concerned," he said.

"I said it was absolutely ridiculous because it wasn't true and if I had been getting commission for doing such a thing, which I hadn't, it wouldn't have borne any resemblance to the losses I had been making on 244."

Mr Needham also denied a 1984 report that he had been given an interest-free loan by Laurence Phillips to help him to meet his 244 losses.

# Medical researchers call for ethical committees to control embryo work

By Thomson Prentice  
Science Correspondent

The leading medical research organisations of nine European countries, including Britain, have proposed strict controls on embryo research and other "test-tube baby" techniques.

They have called for national ethical committees to be set up in each country to monitor the work of in-vitro fertilisation specialists and to prohibit "unacceptable" research, but they stop short of legislation.

The suggestions were put forward in a statement issued yesterday on behalf of the medical research councils of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Holland, Italy, Sweden, West Germany and the United Kingdom.

The Medical Research Council in Britain is sending copies of the statement to MPs as an aid to public debate on Friday a new attempt to ban research on human embryos will be made with the publication of a private member's Bill in the House of Commons.

Mr Kenneth Hargreaves, Conservative MP for Hyndburn, is proposing legislation very similar to that of the unsuccessful Bill introduced last year.

The research councils of Europe are agreed that research on what they describe as "pre-embryos" should be permitted to improve the treatment of infertility and to reduce the incidence of hereditary and congenital abnormalities.

But such work should not be permitted on pre-embryos beyond 14 days, they say. The councils also want to ban some work that is currently impossible but which could develop the cloning of embryos, producing identical twins, and artificial fertilisation; and altering human genes to change characteristics such as intelligence and personality.

The proposals have been drafted because of concern among the councils at the lack of guidance on permitted practices within the IVF field. The recommendations published yesterday are aimed at "ensuring the acceptance of IVF and carefully controlled related research in Europe", a joint statement said.

"The medical and scientific communities are acutely conscious of the need to be guided

## Hospital inquiry is sought

A government inquiry into possible revision of the law covering private hospitals was demanded yesterday by the Medical Practitioners' Union in Scotland.

Mr Gordon Craig, Scottish divisional officer for the union, told a press conference in Glasgow that regulations covering the private sector were woefully inadequate to protect patients and staff.

The demand has been sharpened by the recent fatal accident reports in Glasgow on a boy aged 7 who died after an operation in a private hospital. The union has been campaigning for tougher controls for several years.

Mr Craig said the standards set by the National Health Services, the arbiter for health care standards in Britain, should apply equally and no less stringently to the private sector.

The union is also seeking to have private hospitals licensed for each medical procedure carried out there, in order to ensure adequate back-up facilities and staffing, and to create a provision that consultants working in the private sector should live within an acceptable distance from the hospital so that in an emergency they would be available.

The union is to approach Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, and every Scottish MP on the issue.

among the councils at the lack of guidance on permitted practices within the IVF field. The recommendations published yesterday are aimed at "ensuring the acceptance of IVF and carefully controlled related research in Europe", a joint statement said.

"The medical and scientific communities are acutely conscious of the need to be guided

by public opinion on questions of ethical significance as fundamental as those raised by this work.

It is vital that in addition to scientists and clinicians, the public be involved in the decision as to what is ethically permissible and in the prohibition of unacceptable research.

The councils argue that without research there would have been no IVF to help infertile couples. "The technique is still relatively inefficient and without more research no improvements are possible," they say.

Preventing research would commit clinicians to continue using unsatisfactory methods, and that in itself would be unethical to medical specialists.

The proposed national ethical committee would have a "substantial" lay membership and would guide and advise scientists and doctors, and draw up guidelines in controversial areas of research.

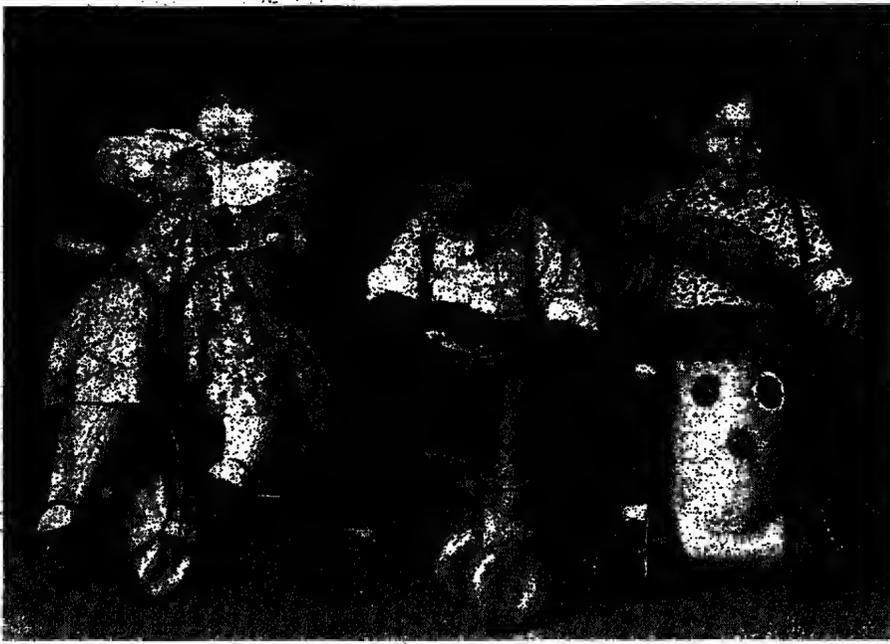
"It is expected that by this means, the need for legislation in areas in which the central question concerns the ethical acceptability of a practice would be avoided," the councils say.

The greatest long term benefit from research on fertilised human eggs will be the "very early detection" and hereditary disorders such as cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and haemophilia, the councils believe.

The use of "spare" pre-embryos in such research must be dependent in all cases on the consent of the donors, "the final arbiters in any decision", they say.

Sir James Gowans, Secretary of the British Medical Research Council, said yesterday: "The proposals are the result of discussions among European research leaders who recognize the need for an informed public debate on human IVF."

"We are very anxious to have the public fully involved in monitoring research.



Test tube triplets Nourah (left), Khalil and Khaled celebrate their second birthday today. The triplets, claimed by Professor Ian Croft, of the Cromwell Hospital, London, to be Britain's first, were born to Mrs Anne Maaye who had waited more than 10 years to have children (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

# Coroners criticized over mental patients

By Marjorie Wallace

The deaths of schizophrenics who commit suicide are being recorded as accidental deaths or misadventure because of coroners' reluctance to return verdicts, Dr Martin Weller, a leading psychiatrist said yesterday.

Evidence that coroners are reluctant to return suicide verdicts has been collected by *The Times* and Central Television, whose *Zero Options*, the first of two programmes on schizophrenia, is broadcast tonight.

The programme claims that one in 10 schizophrenics who suffer will commit suicide. Dr Weller, a consultant psychiatrist to Friern Barnet and two other north London hospitals, has carried out research showing that the suicide rate is 17 times higher to schizophrenics than the population as a whole, and higher still among those who have just been discharged from hospital.

"There is a reluctance by coroners to record a verdict of suicide," he said. "I had one schizophrenic patient who jumped from a high building. His death was recorded as misadventure."

Mr David Lyne, director of the North-West Fellowship for schizophrenia, said: "Last year 18 of the schizophrenics who suffered from the 100 or so I know committed suicide. Nine of them died by walking in front of a train or by lying on the railway line."

According to the programme, James Andrews, aged 23, threw himself under a train in Hertfordshire after two previous attempts to take his own life, but the verdict of accidental death was recorded.

The programme also examines the failure of community care to meet patients' needs. "Community care is an empty shell," Dr Michael Tarsh, consultant psychiatrist at Prestwich Hospital, Manchester, said yesterday.

## Five men face charges of organizing dog fight

Five men appeared in court at Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, today in connection with an organized dog fight on the outskirts of the town.

The police discovered the fighting arena along with a white bucket containing a mixture of dogs' blood and water, weighing scales and other paraphernalia used for dog baiting after a man reported what he thought was a child's cry, Mr John Davison said.

Ian Glover, aged 32, of Fir Street, Nelson, Lancashire, and Trevor Fryer, aged 37, of Towgate Road, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, pleaded not guilty to procuring or assisting a dog fight at Dewsbury on September 8 last year.

Steven Harrison, aged 34, of Cutler Place, Bradford, and Richard Brerley, aged 41, of High Street, Dewsbury, also pleaded not guilty to causing unnecessary suffering to two dogs by omitting to attempt to stop an organized fight between them. Glyn Jones, aged 26, of Westminster Avenue, Royton, Oldham, who is accused of procuring or assisting at a dog fight, changed his plea from not guilty.

The case was adjourned until today.

## Prison oversight means Blandford misses hearing

An administrative oversight at Peotovoille prison meant that Lord Blandford, aged 30, son of the Duke of Marlborough, could not be produced for a court hearing yesterday.

He was remanded, in his absence, by magistrates at Marylebone court, central London, on a charge of conspiring to supply cocaine.

Lord Blandford, who gave Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, as his address, was represented by Mr James Rankin, who agreed to a remand to his absence.

Mr Geoffrey Noel, the magistrate, renewed Lord Blandford's bail of £10,000 until February 10. Two co-defendants, George Yiannakakis, aged 33, of Lower Sloane Street, Chelsea, south-west London, and Lawrence Zephyr, aged 53, of Ashmore Road, Maida Vale, west London, who appeared in court, were remanded in custody to the same date.

All three are charged, with two others previously granted £1,500 bail, with conspiring to contravene the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971.

## Visits to top historic houses are up 14%

By John Young

The most popular historic houses in terms of visitors last year were Warwick Castle, owned by Madame Tussauds, and Beaulieu, the ancestral home of Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of English Heritage, according to the Historic Houses Association.

The association's table does not include Crown properties, such as the Tower of London, or the royal palaces, or those owned by the National Trust. Warwick Castle had 641,000 visitors, and Beaulieu more than 560,000. The next most popular were Harewood House, with just above 200,000, and Arundel Castle with 184,000.

Visitors to Warwick and Beaulieu were nearly 14 per cent more than in 1984, and most other owners of the best-known and most popular properties reported big increases in business. Floors Castle, in Scotland, for example, the home of the Dukes of Roxburgh, where part of the film *Greystoke* was shot, attracted more than 60 per cent more visitors.

The association attributes the increase to the strong dollar and the consequent revival of the American tourist trade.

property	visitors	% rise or fall
Warwick Ca	641,000	+13.65
Beaulieu	560,659	+13.75
Harewood Ho	200,484	+4.1
Arundel Ca	184,000	-2.2
Bowood Ho	160,360	.41
Broadlands	151,222	-1.1
Sleat Ca	130,258	+9
Soane Pa	103,830	+10
Tatton Park	102,121	+10
Esary Gdns	100,544	+8.7
Elvetham	100,000	+10
Wilton Ho	92,774	+10
Inversaray Ca	89,762	+8.48
Ham House	86,552	+8.2
Durweston Ca	77,438	+12.5
Glansis Ca	76,000	+6
Llifford Park	73,700	-20
Newby Hall	72,000	-7
Knebworth Ho	68,485	-1.1
Holkar Hall	66,899	+12
Hopetoun Ho	63,274	+13
Alnwick Ca	62,128	+3.4
Floors Ca	61,596	+61.6
Berkley Ca	59,143	+11.4
Burghley Ho	56,487	+5.18
Middleham Pr	53,154	+0.8
Chilham Ca	53,000	-

Private sector properties with more than 50,000 visitors a year. Several leading houses do not publish visitor figures, and those are not included here. Figures from the Historic Houses Association.

But the association is concerned that the numbers of visitors to lesser known houses, whose owners cannot afford expensive marketing and promotion campaigns, dropped by 15 per cent.

## Drug case halted again

The trial in London of a Saudi Arabian prince accused of plotting to smuggle cocaine into Britain was halted for the fourth time yesterday when a woman juror fell ill and was discharged from service.

The trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court, which has not proceeded further than the prosecution opening speech since it began last Monday, has had three false starts.

The court was told yesterday by Judge Henry Pownall, QC, that a woman juror had fallen ill and been discharged. A male juror was sworn in after defence counsel challenged 12 potential jurors and the trial started yet again.

## Kidnap threat to second brother

Mr Muhammad Mahdi al-Tajir, the United Arab Emirates' Ambassador in London, said yesterday that there had been a threat to kidnap a second member of his family.

After armed men bundled his brother Sadiq into a car on a London street, the ambassador was warned that the kidnappers were also after another brother.

He said: "Mr X, the intermediary, said: 'Be careful, they are after your brother Hadi'."

Mr Hadi al-Tajir, chief executive of the family business, came to England in 1957 with his brother Sadiq, who runs a travel agency in Knightsbridge, west London.

The ambassador said: "I cannot tell you any more at the moment: more about this will come out later."

He disclosed that on the day of the kidnap, two weeks ago his brother was not accompanied, as usual, by a bodyguard. "For some reason, Sadiq had decided to use security that day", he said.

The kidnap victim had opened the door to an expected caller at the family's residence in Rutland Gate and was confronted by a man with a revolver, who pushed him into a car.



Mr Muhammad Mahdi al-Tajir, the UAE Ambassador, in London yesterday.

after payment of a \$3 million (about £2 million) ransom. Mr al-Tajir had been chained to a bedstead in a flat in west Norwood, south London.

The ambassador said: "My brother is strong enough to get over it. I'm sure he is glad to be alive."

Asked if paying the ransom would encourage future kidnaps, he said: "The outcome will prove whether or not I made the right decision. I decided to pay the money as a way of bringing the kidnappers to justice."

## Sunday shop rebuffed in Co-op study

By Teresa Poole

The Co-op, Britain's biggest shopkeeper, yesterday renewed its attack on unrestricted Sunday trading with an independent survey showing that most of its customers do not want shops open all day on Sunday.

Only 15 per cent of Co-op shoppers said they approved of all-day Sunday trading and more than half agreed that "Sundays are a good excuse not to have to go shopping".

The survey appears to support the Co-op's view that there is limited appeal for total deregulation of Sunday shopping. Of the 27 per cent who thought it would be a good idea for all shops to be open on Sunday, only 37 per cent wanted them open all day.

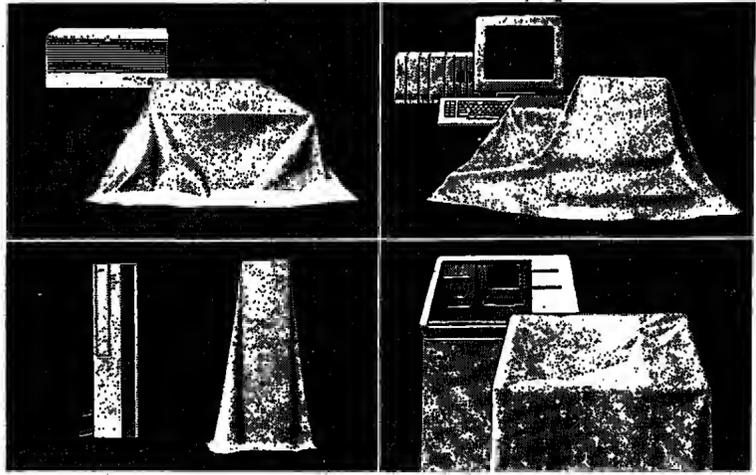
Support for Sunday shopping was strongest among under-35s and where both partners worked. In those cases about three quarters of customers said they would regularly shop on Sundays.

The Co-op has 5,800 retail outlets with a combined turnover of £4,500 million and has strongly opposed government proposals in the Shops Bill to lift all restrictions on shops. The survey, by Research Bureau, was conducted late last year with 600 Co-op customers.

A large minority, more than a third, said they shopped on Sunday beyond buying newspapers, confectionery and cigarettes. Almost half agreed that they would shop if the stores were open.

When pressed on preferred Sunday opening times for shops, 29 per cent wanted the morning only and 11 per cent wanted mid-morning to mid-afternoon. Parliament, page 4

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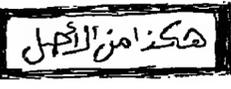
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PARLIAMENT JANUARY 20 1986 Tunnel decision • Hearings for protesters • White Paper soon

MPs voice reservations

CHANNEL TUNNEL

The announcement of the proposed Channel tunnel received a mixed reaction from MPs when Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, made a statement in the Commons about the Lille decision.

Some MPs saw it as an opportunity for the creation of jobs, particularly Kent. Others saw it as drawing work and jobs away from the north and Scotland. One spoke of widening the north-south divide.

Mr Ridley said the Cabinet was united in the decision to have a twin-bore rail link. He said a White Paper would be published shortly and a hybrid Bill introduced allowing interested parties to make representations to MPs and peers.

The two Governments were faced with four proposals of outstanding quality which reflect great credit on the firms involved. It is remarkable that such keen competition could develop to provide and finance privately a project of this magnitude.

EuroRoute was eliminated largely on technical grounds. It is an imaginative and forward-looking proposal. But the technical risks make it too speculative for the two Governments to believe it was likely to be financed and successfully completed.

The choice between Channel Tunnel Group, Channel Expressway and EuroRoute was more difficult. They differ widely as to their technical characteristics, impact on the environment, effect upon shipping, and vulnerability to terrorist attack - all factors in the decision.

The invitation to promoters made clear that any fixed link had to be financed, constructed and operated without support from public funds, and without government guarantees against technical and commercial risks.

It is thus for investors ultimately to determine whether a fixed link is built. The Governments had to try and select the scheme which offered the best prospects of attracting investors' support.

impact, and to consider carefully the employment consequences of this development. We will be sympathetic if problems seem likely to arise in east Kent when the link opens some seven years from now.

We must arrive at satisfactory arrangements with the promoters for the disposal of spoil and on other environmental matters and we will ensure that the necessary road infrastructure is provided. The White Paper will deal with these questions.

The Channel Tunnel is a massive and difficult project. It will be a challenge to our engineers, our technicians and our financial institutions. Equally I believe it will be of great benefit to travellers and exporters alike in giving them cheaper, quicker and more reliable access to the continent of Europe.

Mr Robert Hughes, Chief Opposition spokesman on transport, said the Government, in rushing this decision through on such a tight timetable, Mr Ridley had broken his promise that he would publish a White Paper on the day the decision was announced.

I suspect (he added) this will not be the last of his broken promises. What guarantee had Mr Ridley that the British share of construction costs would be spent on British goods and that British labour would be employed on the project?

Mr Ridley produced an investment plan in conjunction with British Rail so that BR could maximise the use of the tunnel.

Mr Ridley said he had been a troubled time for the press because his views were not being shared by some of the ferry operators.

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speed trains the figure will be about £390 million. There will be further investment in short rail equipment which will be undertaken by the CTG itself so there are some large orders. It opens up great new opportunities for the railway system? extending right from the north of our country into the farthest corners of Europe.

Mr Peter Rees (Dover, C): His statement will not allay the deep and legitimate concern to east Kent about the implications of a fixed link, will he recognize the need for close and continuing consultation with local interests likely to be affected?

Will there be a proper and continuing role for the ferries and the ports of Dover and Folkestone? Can he assure the House that any extra economic activity generated by a fixed link will be retained in east Kent and not drawn to north-west France?

Mr Ridley: He has made clear the views and fears of constituents along the south-east coast of Kent in the light of representations I have decided to set up a joint committee of officials and local authority representatives from the area and the promoters which Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport will chair to go into all the points of local concern.

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other direction. A lot of this money is international money. A lot of it is in capital which only goes to the west coast of the country and cannot be directed elsewhere.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C), a former Secretary of State for Transport, said the Government had made far the best and most sensible choice.

This is the one scheme (he went on) which ensures that there will be a substantial growth of the traffic still going to the ferry operators. Would he say a word about plans for streamlining Customs and Immigration, particularly the possibility of on-train Customs handling?

Mr Ridley: I welcome his support. This particular choice of the opportunities for continuing ferry operations are very great, although it is difficult to be specific about the precise amount of that.

On Customs and immigration, we are working hard and still hope to see a substantial improvement in the way the link will be used to have both Customs and immigration for many reasons, including the prevention of disease and plant and animals coming through the link which would have to be some control.

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Businesses urged to support arts and charities

TAXATION

The Government wants to see everything possible done to persuade businesses to support the arts and charitable bodies, Mr Richard Lacey, Minister for the Arts, said, during a question time in the Commons.

He said that the Government had already reduced the rates of personal and corporate taxation and those of capital transfer tax. Gifts for charities benefited from that and the Government would continue to look for improvement.

Mr Harvey Proctor (Billerica, C): Has the minister seen the article in the Times headed "Charity aid tax scheme proposed"? Will he make strong representations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in support of the measures set out there?

Mr Lacey: I have seen the piece in the Times. That is principally a matter for the Chancellor but the Government has already done a great deal to encourage giving to charitable bodies. Everything possible should be done to improve it still further.

Mr Tim Rathbone (Leves, C): There is agreement across the floor of the House, among all parties, and throughout the arts world, that the future of our arts and architectural heritage rests on charitable giving being made tax-deductible on the lines suggested in that article. Will he encourage the Chancellor in that view?

Mr Lacey: I want to see everything done to improve encouragement for arts bodies. Mr Peter Hardy (Wentworth, Lab): While support will always be welcome, in these areas where business is struggling to survive, it would be the effect of a pool of £400m which was a little less than backdated this year.

Will he be careful to avoid being divisive or dangerous in a regional sense? Mr Lacey: I want to see as much support for art in all areas, and all regions, including the north. It is up to businesses to decide whether they can make contributions, but they must always remember that they can offset the expenditure for purposes like advertising.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C): Has he made any progress in convincing the Chancellor of the importance of select committees report on the subject? Mr Lacey: I am sure the Chancellor's report will be played a leading part in that select committee. This is a matter principally for the Chancellor, but the Government is committed to improving incentives for gifts for arts and charitable purposes.

Protests to minister from Conservative shire counties

RATES

The Government is to consider whether to continue with the present resources equalization system which transfers about £1,000 million a year from London and the South-East to the rest of the country, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in the Commons.

Mr Baker, commending the rate support grant settlement for England, was interrupted several times by Conservative MPs questioning the Government's proposals. He said that he would be publishing a green paper on local government finance and resource equalization.

He was cheered by Conservative MPs when he said that some shire counties felt they had more than their fair part in restraint, and some indeed had, but on average shire counties had increased spending by 5 per cent in real terms since 1978-79 and only seven had not.

He explained that under the new system, the grant that would be lost by the high spenders would form a pool which would be re-cycled to local authorities.

If additional low spenders could keep their spending right down and the high spenders could not break the habit of a lifetime and spent up as usual, substantial amounts of grant would flow back to the low spenders.

From the picture that was emerging, Mr Baker said, he had little doubt that there would be significant extra grant available from this source. He could not estimate the figure precisely, but he had qualified the effect of a pool of £400m which was a little less than backdated this year.

Mr Lacey: I want to see as much support for art in all areas, and all regions, including the north. It is up to businesses to decide whether they can make contributions, but they must always remember that they can offset the expenditure for purposes like advertising.

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when they faced pay settlements of 7 to 9 per cent. He had told them that if they made settlements, such as 8.2 per cent for the manual workers, then they should not come and ask the Government to make up the difference. (Labour protests).

Mr Douglas Hogg (Grantham, C) said the basic assumption of wage settlements of 3.5 per cent was simply unrealistic.

Mr Baker said there might be extra grant in 1986-87 to meet extra wage costs. The most important figure of the settlement next year was the abolition of targets. However, he accepted some authorities were disappointed that there was still spending through the new system.

The new slopes meant that as authorities spent more, they received less grant.

Hung councils meant high spending councils and high spending councils meant high rates. He appreciated that shire counties had suffered a disproportionate loss of grant. One of the foundation stones of the rate support grant system, which had been in place since 1929, was called resources equalization. This was the reason that something like £1 billion a year was transferred through the grant system from London and the South-East to the rest of the country.

When the block grant available was reduced all authorities lost a common rate poundage amount of grant. This loss was greater in cash for high value authorities like the Home Counties.

Next week (he said) I will be bringing out a Green Paper on local government finance and it will raise the issue of resource equalization. In the consultation process, MPs' interest outside would be able to comment on this.

Resources equalization was central to the grant system and the question was whether it should continue at all, continue at its present level or at a lower level as a less significant feature of the new arrangements.

High levels of social deprivation, many single parent families, pockets of poverty, unemployment in some inner cities brought acute problems. These problems needed extra resources.

Faced with these problems (he said) the Secretary of State could pass by on the other side. Some say that whilst they recognize the needs of the towns and cities, they should be met from resources other than through the rating system. But if more resources were available, they had to be found from the ratepayer or taxpayer. They could not come from anywhere else, I steadfastly defend this policy.

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, said from the outset of the Conservative period of office, there had been a consistent policy of reducing the rate support grant year on year. This coming financial year was no exception.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

How relevant is all the talk about anti-Americanism in the Westland debate? That has now become one of the principal points at issue after Mr Leon Brittan's explanations of his conversations with Sir John Cockney and Mr Prior.

Mr Brittan claimed in his television interview with Mr Brian Walden on *Westland World* that the tone of the debate on Westland might increase the danger of the European Airbus being banned in the United States.

A careful reading of the transcript makes it clear that Mr Brittan was not suggesting a direct connection, with the US threatening to prohibit imports of the Airbus unless Britain behaved itself on Westland. It was rather that reports of the Westland debate might create a climate of opinion in the US in which it would be more difficult to overcome objections to the Airbus that have nothing to do with Westland.

A number of telephone calls to Washington have been sufficient to convince me that Mr Brittan's anxieties on this score are not groundless. The American Embassy in London seems to have been at pains to keep the temperature down on both sides of the Atlantic. But influential sections of American opinion could be influenced by an impression that the Europeans were once again indulging in anti-American prejudice.

Would this be fair? In one sense there can be no doubt that the campaign for the European option is anti-American. It is based on the proposition that it is in the long-term interests of British and European defence industries to resist the entry of an American company into the British helicopter industry.

But before labelling that an "anti-Americanism" would be wise to take account of Mr Hesilwood's argument in the Commons last Wednesday that it is in the long-term interest of the Atlantic Alliance as a whole to build up the strength of European defence industries.

There cannot be an effective two-way street with Goliath at one end and pygmies at the other - especially if it is thought that Goliath is using his strength to "stop" the pygmies from growing.

The usual arguments in favour of defence forces are less persuasive in defence procurement because it is widely believed in Europe even by ardent supporters of the Atlantic Alliance, that the US Government uses its purchasing power in this field to prevent fair competition in the American market.

Collaboration in Europe necessary

It would therefore be quite wrong to stigmatize collaboration between European defence industries as an anti-American activity. It deserves to be encouraged as a necessary contribution to the strength of the Alliance. But there are two features of the Westland dispute that are grounds for legitimate anxiety.

The recommendation from the national armaments directors of Britain, France, West Germany and Italy went beyond encouraging collaboration and synchronising national requirements for military helicopters. It also proposed that those requirements should be met solely by helicopters built and designed in Europe.

Church to ask shops about Sunday trading

SHOPS BILL

The Church Commissioners are asking the retail companies in which they are invested whether they are ready to support a bill to restrict Sunday trading and drawing their attention to the General Synod's opposition to it.

Mr Peter Brinley (Leicester East, C) said it was important that the Commissioners bore the Synod's view in mind or they might be considered to be endorsing a measure which was a disastrous misjudgement.

Mr Keith Best (Notts Moa, C): In the American mid-west and in Scotland there has been Sunday trading for some time and people there are not noticeably religious.

Sir William was Stranbenze (in Scotland) a continuing cause of concern for all of us, industry in Wales, and in the rest of the United Kingdom, has an unparalleled opportunity for expansion under present conditions.

Mr Edwards: There is a great deal of industrial investment at present and the allocation of factory spaces is at or near record levels. We continue to secure a high proportion of inward investment from overseas and there is a greater diversity in the Welsh economy than there was many decades, probably in this century.

The coal industry in Wales had lost over £600 million since the Conservative period of office. The coal industry was expected to spend £45 million in the next financial year.

Attracting investment

WALES

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, denied in Commons question time exchanges that Government policies were murdering "Welsh" investment.

Mr Edwards pointed out that there had been a high level of inward investment enjoyed by Wales and more than two million sq ft of Government factory space allocated, near to, being an all-time record.

Sir Raymond Gower (Vale of Glamorgan, C): Whilst unemployment is a continuing cause of concern for all of us, industry in Wales, and in the rest of the United Kingdom, has an unparalleled opportunity for expansion under present conditions.

Mr Edwards: There is a great deal of industrial investment at present and the allocation of factory spaces is at or near record levels. We continue to secure a high proportion of inward investment from overseas and there is a greater diversity in the Welsh economy than there was many decades, probably in this century.

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Chancery Division

Law Report January 21 1986

Divisional Court

Capital payment on winding up trust is taxable

Bray (Inspector of Taxes) v Best Before Mr Justice Walton (Judgment delivered January 30)

Capital payments made on the winding up of a company funds to one of its long-standing employees after the termination of his employment with that company were emoluments of that employment and chargeable to income tax.

Mr Justice Walton so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the Crown from the determination of a single special commissioner in favour of the taxpayer, Mr Peter Morris BS.

On March 29, 1979 the trustees directed that the trust period should cease forthwith and that out of the terminal fund there should be allocated to each eligible employee an appropriate capital sum. This it was that the taxpayer - an employee of the company from 1956 until the time of its takeover - became entitled to sums of £11,533 and £6,578.

The case raised the question whether those sums were taxable in his hands and if so, in respect of what year or years of assessment.

The taxpayer had appealed to the special commissioner against assessments, or further assessments, to income tax all of which were made on March 4, 1983 under the provision of section 35 of the Taxes Management Act 1970. It had been held (i) that the sums which he became so entitled were indeed emoluments of his employment with the company, but (ii) that such emoluments could not be attributed to any one or more years of assessment, and so were not chargeable for any chargeable period.

Mr Brahm attempted to discharge that on, by pointing to various cases in which it had been held that payments made to a person after he had ceased to hold office or employment had not been emoluments of that former employment (Stoddard v Betoe [1932] AC 388 and Bennet v Thorpe [1928] 14 TC 1).

One got little help from those cases. The taxpayer had not shown any reason for upsetting the commissioner's conclusion on that point. Indeed, he had the converse conclusion been reached by him it could not have been upheld.

Given then that the payments were emoluments arising from the employment, was it possible to attribute a year or years of assessment to them? The commissioner decided in the negative.

and one had sympathy with him in this conclusion. But Mr Potter's simple submission that that conclusion was logically indefensible was wholly convincing.

If emoluments were paid for service as an employee, they had to have been paid in respect of some period of service - whether that be a definable special period or whether the payments were to be regarded as spread over the whole of the period of service of the employee.

It was, having regard to the facts, extremely difficult to say in respect of precisely what period of service the payments were made; but that they had to be attributed to some period was inescapable.

The commissioner regarded the difficulty of apportionment as being conclusive. That was not correct. The matter was a question of fact.

occupies up to the stroke of midnight on the final day of the three-month period. The word "within" in the context of a period of time was capable of meaning either before or at the end of that period.

Although a notice to quit was an important legal document which had to be strictly construed, his Lordship could not bring himself to say there was any difference between the requirement under the lease and the words in the notice.

'Within' can mean end of period

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kerr, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Balcombe) so held on January 16, dismissing an appeal by the defendants from Mr John Peppitt, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge in chambers on December 17, 1985, who granted an order for possession in favour of the plaintiffs.

Time limit on giving name of driver

Lowe v Lester

It was the duty of the registered owner or keeper of a motor vehicle to provide information as to the identity of the driver, forthwith or within a reasonable time where he had been served with a notice under section 85(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967, in respect of an excess charge incurred by the driver of the vehicle at a car park.

MR JUSTICE SKINNER said that the justices had been right to conclude that although the 1967 Act did not prescribe a time limit to which the information had to be provided, the requirement had to be complied with forthwith or as soon as reasonably practicable.

It was clear that the information requested had to be given quickly; if the owner of the vehicle was to quit the driver the prosecution would have

Corrections

In R v Hallstrom and Another, Ex parte W (The Times December 28) a "not" was omitted from the end of the second paragraph of the report which should have read "... there, a doctor's report, that a patient ... should receive further medicine despite his lack of consent and that that should not be administered in the hospital, was unlawful."

In the first paragraph of Mr Justice McCullough's judgment it should have been made clear that the doctor recommended W's admission to hospital was not to be granted leave of absence after one night and thereafter receive injections in the belief that they had such power.

In R v Sheffield City Council, Ex parte Chadwick (The Times December 19) counsel for the applicant was Mr David Farnick, QC, for the council were Mr David Keene, QC and Mr Duncan Ouseley.

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# Union leaders aim to curb Militant in the Civil Service

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the largest Civil Service union are drawing up rule changes which, if approved in the spring, will be used to reduce the influence in the union of the Militant Tendency.

Mr Alistair Graham, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, outlined plans yesterday for a fightback against Militant who he addressed a union meeting at the Department of Health and Social Security's main computer centre at Newcastle upon Tyne, which Militant has used as its powerbase.

Militant is said by moderates to control or heavily influence about a third of the CPSA's 900 branches in government offices.

Mr Graham said yesterday: "It is because I want to see an effective democratic trade union that faces up to the real choices in the difficult world of the 1980s that I want to destroy the role and influence of the Militant Tendency."

He argued that, in addition to pressing for changes to rules governing elections of branch officials, people who have in the past supported moderate candidates in national union elections should organize themselves at the Newcastle centre into an effective "opposition" to Militant.

The opposition would challenge the ruling Militant power bloc, he said, and even if they do not win immediate power, you may well stop some of the zany propositions that this branch seeks to foist on the national union.

The CPSA leadership has in recent years won a reputation for political volatility with control swinging between Left and Right. Political complications brought about by a split

in the Left-wing grouping in 1984 have been increased recently by a similar division opening in the ranks of the moderate groups.

The new moderate group, which promises to take a softer political line, expects to win votes both from the original moderate group and BL84 which comprises Labour left, Communists and other sympathizers. It could raise the chances of the Broad Left, organization that brings together Militant, the Socialist Workers Party and other Trotskyist groups.

Elections to the union executive will be held in the next three months, but Mr Graham argued that branch annual general meetings, which are now being held around the country, should seek to change election rules so that voting for key branch official positions is held by secret ballot.

At the moment, voting is by ballot at a meeting, but Mr Graham said the union's annual conference in May would be asked to approve constitutional amendments making it compulsory that branches should hold elections before the annual general meeting.

Moderates argue that Militant packs meetings of which elections are held so that its candidates are elected. Mr Graham warned the Newcastle meeting yesterday of the "chaos and incompetence" which arises when Militant is in control. He quoted the examples of the Liverpool crises.

Describing Militant as "a dangerous lot", Mr Graham said that, like Mr Neil Kinnock to the Labour Party he intended to challenge its role in the union.

## Race Act warning over sale

By Pat Healy, Race Relations Correspondent

A white householder who tried to stop a neighbour selling his house to an Asian family admitted breaking the Race Relations Act at Westminster County Court yesterday and he was warned that similar action could lead to fines or imprisonment.

Mr Andrew Cowper, of Northfleet, Kent, admitted that he had tried to persuade his neighbour to abandon an agreed sale to an Asian family and then petitioned other neighbours to support him. He gave the court an undertaking that he would not break the Act again, and agreed to pay the costs of the action brought by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Section 31 of the Race Relations Act makes it unlawful to try to persuade another person to discriminate on racial grounds.

The commission which successfully brought proceedings last October against 53 council tenants who had petitioned the Greater London Council not to house Asian families on their estate, said yesterday that the case was not isolated.

Mr Goolam Meeran, education, housing and services director at the commission, said: "This sort of racial harassment must not go unchallenged. Firm action must be taken against all individuals and groups who engage in racially discriminatory activities."

## Music for over-40s on Radio 2

By Our Arts Correspondent

BBC Radio 2 is to concentrate on music for the over 40s in an attempt to win back listeners lost by the increasing amount of pop music on the station in recent years. It will have rescheduled most of its output by Easter to put an emphasis on middle-of-the-road music.

Miss Frances Line, the station's head of music, said yesterday: "Radio 2 had been drifting about without a clear music policy. The youth audience has been overruled and now it is time to return to the over-40s."

"There are an awful lot of over-40s in the country and perhaps some of them have given us up in the past."

Miss Line hopes to continue signaling household names to present middle-of-the-road music shows for the station. The latest changes to take place are in the evening music programmes. Angela Rippon, the former BBC newsreader, is to have a weekly two-hour magazine programme beginning at 11pm each Friday from May.

Paul Jones, the former singer with Manfred Mann, who is now an actor, is to host a new series featuring blues and country music.

Monday evenings will be devoted to big band and jazz, and Tuesdays "big strings sounds" and a series about musical stars of the past and present. Wednesday will have an extended evening of folk music.

## Austin Rover 'seeks to screen troublemakers'

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Workers seeking jobs in Austin Rover factories will be subjected to a searching two-day investigation, including questions about their personal commitment to the State-controlled car group, if management proposals are adopted.

The proposals, including the establishment of assessment centres to examine recruits, are seen by some union officials as a further move by the company to prevent potential troublemakers slipping through the interviewing procedure.

That was tightened up two years ago after the discovery of a so-called "battle plan" by militants to infiltrate key union posts at the Cowley plant near Oxford. Thirteen new recruits were dismissed for making statements on their application forms.

Austin Rover executives are assuring union leaders that only a small amount of time during the two days will be given to weeding out troublemakers.

Most of the time will be spent assessing candidates' skills and ensuring that they are prepared to identify with the company's recovery plans.

Mr Harold Musgrove, Austin Rover's chairman and chief executive, has called in consultants to help with stage two of the recovery plan now that productivity, particularly at Longbridge, is sure to be on par with the best in Europe. Annual output a worker has increased since 1979 from 5.9 cars to 14.

Stage two is intended to reduce the friction between workers and management by holding regular round-table discussions with managers at all levels, using a system of "zone circles" each with 25 members in an adaptation of the highly praised "quality circles" devised by the Japanese motor industry.

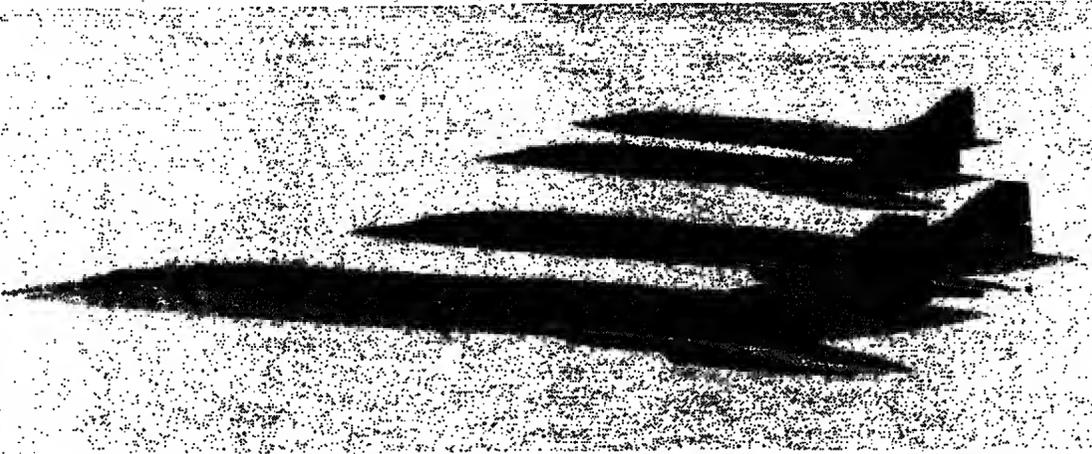
Officially, Austin Rover will confirm only that those new ideas are under scrutiny.

## Pedal-power for charity

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents is planning a coast-to-coast ride by hundreds of cyclists to introduce families to the "forgotten pleasures" of cycling through beautiful countryside and to raise funds through sponsorship for Oxfam.

The "Great Pedal-In" from the Irish Sea to the North Sea is to start in Blackpool on Saturday July 12 ending a week later in Scarborough.

The trip will cost £120 for adult and £95 for children under 16. The youngest riders must be over nine years old.



Four British Airways Concorde flying in formation at 15,000 feet over the West of England as part of the tenth anniversary celebrations.

# On board champagne Concorde's birthday special

By Ronald Faux

Concorde today celebrates 10 years of ferrying very important passengers in luxury across the Atlantic. The aircraft has proved immensely popular among those privileged enough to be able to afford a ticket and has won the respect and affection of the pilots who fly it.

Captain Colin Morris, a senior British Airways pilot and Concorde enthusiast, said: "Not only the passengers think this plane is incredible. You should hear what the people who fly it have to say."

So there we were - 70 VIP's paying £1,442 each on the flight crew side of Heathrow in Concorde's crowded cockpit with the world's most prestigious aeroplane coming to life around us - a bewilderment of dials, warning lights and indicators primed with energy.

Captain Morris led the litany of checks with his first officer and flight engineer, Engines lit, trims corrected, intercal navigators set, all systems operational. Behind us, the champagne cocktails, caviar and quail were ready for service to the

passengers. Speedbird 193 began to taxi.

The first 10 years were not easy for Concorde, an example of complex engineering that rivals a swan for grace. The project cost £1,000m even before it got airborne, but more than 50,000 flying hours later, Concorde is making a profit for British Airways of more than £12 million a year.

Take-off is a coordinated action by all three members of the crew so Captain Morris gives a space-shuttle countdown: "Three, two, one, now."

The Bristol Channel shrank beneath us at 15,000ft a minute. The tip of Ireland loomed on the radar at Captain Morris's elbow. As we cruised at 4,000ft the crew sipped tea as Concorde clipped along at the speed of a bullet.

Later the sky below clears and as the cabin staff wheel out the last Remy Martin and Macanudo cigars, Nantucket Island and Cape Cod slide over the curve of the earth. We track towards the coast at 22 miles a minute, and the nose droops to reveal the Manhattan skyline.

# 'Debate-in' by Labour MPs over Gartcosh

The battle to save Gartcosh steelworks spilled over into the Scottish Grand Committee in Edinburgh yesterday when Opposition MPs occupied the debating chamber.

During a debate on the report of the Scottish Tertiary Education Advisory Council, Mr Tom Clarke, Labour MP for Monklands West, and Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MP for Falkirk West, asked Mr Hugh McCartney, Labour MP for Clydebank and Milngavie and committee chairman to extend the sitting so that they could discuss Gartcosh.

Mr McCartney refused because the question was "completely out of order". As soon as he vacated the chair at the end of the sitting, it was occupied by Mr William McKelvey, Labour MP for Kilmarnock and Loudoun, who announced that they would hold a debate of Gartcosh.

Conservative MPs and Labour front bench spokesmen left the chamber. Ten Labour MPs and two alliance members remained.

A motion supporting the workforce at Gartcosh to their fight to save the plant was moved by Mr Gavin Straog, Labour MP for Edinburgh East, and seconded by Mr Canavan.

Parliament is due in debate Gartcosh on Thursday. Earlier Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, had met a deputatioon from the steel plant.

# The new BBC microcomputer series will be seen in all areas.

The BBC Master Series is a continuation and development of the highly popular BBC Micro. As such, the series retains all of the BBC Micro's traditional virtues including BBC BASIC and a superior choice of software and peripherals.

Though never before has one micro-computer encompassed such a wide range of applications or offered so much potential.

**THE HOME.**

BBC Micros have gained a reputation as powerful, versatile home computers. The Master 128 will prove an even more useful addition to the household. Your child is probably already familiar with it from school. In which case, our educational programs will ensure that learning continues at home.

By using a Teletext adaptor, up-to-the-minute information can be called up instantly. And via a Modem, you can control all the money in your bank account, paying bills and standing orders from the comfort of your own home.

You can even write and send letters on screen by Electronic Mail.

Yet despite these advances, the price remains the same at £499 inc. VAT.

To speed up other tasks, there is the Master TURBO. For an extra £125 inc. VAT, it improves the Master 128's benchmark from 9.2 seconds to a record-breaking 4.67 seconds using BBC BASIC.

**PROFESSIONAL.**

Business dictates that a microcomputer is both efficient and easy to operate. The Master 512 puts all the power of 16-bit computing under your control, for under £1,000. This control comes courtesy of the GEM Collection which provides an icon-driven, simple and easy to use environment, as well as a word processor and painting package.

Not only does this allow you to write documents easily, but also to insert charts and graphs into them. Thereby improving your business presentations.

Though business is only one of the areas in which the Master 512 will be taking control. In the Medical field, it could be taking the drudgery out of repeat prescriptions. At the same time monitoring dosage for optimum patient care.

Existing BBC Micros are capable of running an entire factory. The more sophisticated Master 512 could check every stage in a manufacturing process from beginning to end.

Of course, your immediate needs may not be on quite this scale. So you could buy the Master 128 now and easily

prove invaluable in any Maths Class. As an upgrade of the 128, the Master 512 gives higher levels of education access to MS-DOS compatible applications. For under £500.

Or for only £348.26 exc. VAT you have the Master ET - a powerful, custom-built networking terminal. Our ECONET networking facility is probably the world's best selling, low cost network.

Combined with the Master ET, it affords considerable cost saving without limiting your expansion options. Ensuring the BBC Micro's place throughout our education system.

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# The Channel tunnel. Heineken submits its plans.



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The military coup in Lesotho

Where Chief Jonathan went wrong

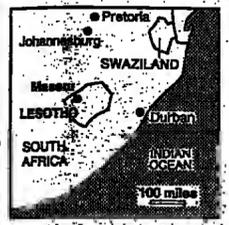
From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The military take-over of power in the small kingdom of Lesotho, after several weeks of tension and confusion, appears to have ended the career of one of the wildest political survivors on the southern African scene.

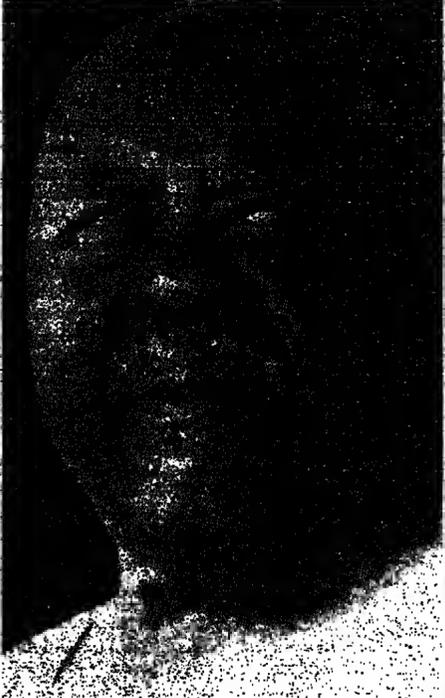
Chief Lesbia Jonathan, Lesotho's bubbly, bald, Prime Minister, now in his early 50s, had been in power since 1983, a year before his country obtained its independence after nearly 100 years as a British protectorate.

It is a moot point whether the removal of Chief Jonathan was engineered directly by Lesotho's giant neighbour, South Africa. It is fair to say that South African pressure, playing on internal divisions in Lesotho, have combined to produce an outcome that looks highly favourable to Pretoria.

The run-up to the latest turn of events began on New Year's Day, when the South Africans forced Lesotho into a state of virtual economic siege by imposing stringent security checks on all traffic entering the kingdom, causing long delays in supplies of food and petrol.



Population: 1,500,000 (1985). About 70 per cent of population, Christian, 40 per cent Roman Catholic. Official languages: English and Sesotho. Area: 11,700 square miles. Armed forces: No standing army, but Lesotho has private military unit estimated to have 1,480 men in 1983.



Chief Jonathan: reprisals after his refusal to hand over ANC insurgents to Pretoria

The irony of the situation is that South Africa was largely responsible for putting Chief Jonathan into power in 1985. It is considered unlikely he would have won without their backing. For some years he was regarded as little more than Pretoria's puppet.

South Pole expedition to pay US rescue bill

The leader of the private British polar expedition which followed Captain Scott's path to the Antarctic, pledged yesterday to foot a £21,000 bill towards the cost of their rescue by the Americans.

Members of the British team were plucked from an iceflo after their support ship, the Southern Cross, sank in the Ross Sea.

The Footsteps of Scott expedition is to be asked to pay £21,000 for an eight-hour Hercules flight which took 26 people from the US McMurdo Sound base to Christchurch, New Zealand, the United States National Science Foundation said.

The Britons, led by Mr Robert Swan, aged 28, from Durham, regard the trip as successful but have been criticised for venturing on to the dangerous ice packs of the Antarctic which crushed their ship.

Asked to comment on the bill, Mr Swan, who has just arrived back in London, said: "It is going to have to be paid. We are a British expedition and we do not go around not paying our bills. We are very grateful for the assistance we received from the Americans."

Famine aid programme EEC to spend £67m on African farming

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The EEC yesterday announced a £67 million programme for economic recovery in poor African states, with the aim of getting sub-Saharan agriculture on its feet and enabling famine-stricken areas to feed themselves.

Signor Lorenzo Natali, the EEC Commissioner for Co-operation and Development, said the programme would be funded by a "concentration of existing resources" rather than by raising additional money for African aid.

Signor Natali said the Commission was asking EEC member-states to supplement the EEC programme, and France, West Germany, the Irish Republic and The Netherlands had promised to help. But only Italy had set aside a specific sum, pledging £8 million.

Total EEC aid to Africa amounts to \$4 billion (£2.8 billion) per year, but Europe is under pressure to do more. The new one-year programme includes the financing of railway

Experts say Air India Boeing exploded

Delhi (AFP) - Five top Indian scientists say in a report that an explosion in the front cargo section caused the Air India plane crash in the Atlantic last June which killed all 329 passengers.

Examination of holes and other features in retrieved sections of the airframe could have been caused only by shock waves and penetration of high-velocity fragments after a blast, sources quoted their report as saying.

Striptease gets blame for deaths

Tel Aviv (AP) - Residents of the small town of Kiryat Malachi in southern Israel are planning a day of fast and sacrifice to atone for a striptease show which a rabbi holds responsible for a wave of deaths.

Fatal firework

Naples (AP) - Two girls aged 10 and 12 and a middle-aged man were killed when a huge firework, lit during suburban celebrations to mark a saint's day exploded in the middle of a crowd.

Vineyard gloom

Vienna (Reuters) - Austria's vineyards, already hit by last year's wine-doctoring scandal, also had a bad grape harvest in 1985.

Biting the hand

Hong Kong (AFP) - A man had a tooth extracted at a dental clinic here then robbed the dentist of about £260 at knifepoint. He and an accomplice were jailed for five years.

Geldof courts French

The chairman of Band Aid, Bob Geldof, is to meet President Mitterrand on Wednesday to ask the French Government to exert pressure within the EEC for greater aid to western Sudan (Pant Valley writes).

Mr Geldof, who has been invited to the Elysee Palace for lunch, will also bring up the subject of the levels of French aid to its former colonies, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad, which he visited last year.

Burns for Palladium on 100th birthday

New York - George Burns, the American comedian, was 90 yesterday and still going strong. He has signed a contract to appear at the London Palladium for two weeks in 1996 to mark his 100th birthday (Trevor Fishlock writes).

Madrid mourns its intellectual mayor

From Richard Wigg Madrid Señor Gonzalez, the Spanish Prime Minister, headed the thousands who yesterday paid their last respects here to Professor Enrique Tierno Galvan, one of the key figures of Spanish socialism since the Civil War and Mayor of Madrid, who died here on Sunday night.

Black South Africans deny treason charges

Delmas, South Africa (Reuters) - Twenty-two black South African dissidents were charged yesterday to face charges of murder and seeking to overthrow the country's white-dominated government by force.

The accused range in age from 21 to 61. Some have been in prison since September 1984, and all have been refused bail.

The charges, which carry a possible death penalty, relate to relatives and well-wishers crowded into a magistrates' court at Delmas, a sleepy provincial town 40 miles east of Johannesburg, where the trial is the biggest such case for a century.

The accused range in age from 21 to 61. Some have been in prison since September 1984, and all have been refused bail. They include former top officials of the United Democratic Front, the main internal group fighting apartheid, as well as little-known activists from community associations in black townships in the Yeoville, Francie, south of Johannesburg.

Advertisement for Heritable Capital Plan. Features a table with columns for 36, 60, 94, 120, and 150 months. Includes a form for loan application with fields for loan amount, repayment term, purpose of loan, and personal details.

Advertisement for Japan Daily. Features a table with columns for days of the week and flight routes: Mon. Heathrow - Moscow - Tokyo - Osaka Tues., Tues. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Wed., Wed. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Thurs., Thurs. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Fri., Fri. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Sat. a.m. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Sun., Sat. p.m. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Sun., Sun. Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka Mon.

# Japan counters effects on UK of trade gap

From David Watts, Tokyo

Trade is likely to dominate the visit to London by Mr Shintaro Abe, the Japanese Foreign Minister, which begins today. The Soviet Union's new arms proposals and Japan's stance on the Strategic Defence Initiative are also likely to figure when Mr Abe sees Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe the Foreign Secretary today.

Mr Abe, fresh from his negotiations with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, will also seek Mrs Thatcher's co-operation at the May economic summit.

The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, has recently returned from a similar mission to Canada where the Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, appears to have been non-committal in his response to suggestions that he might play the role of summit intermediary between President Reagan and President Mitterrand of France. The Japanese found Canadian thinking concentrated on their plans for a free trade area with the United States.

Mr Abe arrives at a time when the trade gap is once again widening. But he will be able to counter with several new manufacturing investments in Britain which help to alleviate the effect of Japan's trade surplus.

Japanese trade figures for the first 11 months of last year show a surplus of \$4.3 billion (£3 billion) compared with \$4.6 billion for the whole of 1984. Perhaps more significantly, British exports which recorded \$2.3 billion in sale in 1984 shrank to \$1.6 billion to the end of November last year leaving a Japanese surplus of \$2.7 billion for the 11 months.

uring 1985 two new manufacturing investments were announced, Komatsu's plant for heavy construction equipment and Brother Industries' for the making of electronic type-writers.

Mrs Thatcher no doubt will be asking for more and pressing the case of Tornado to fill the role of strike fighter in the Japanese Air Self-Defence Forces. A decision on the strike fighter order is expected this year and the other contenders are a domestically developed FSX aircraft and the McDonnell-Douglas F18 Hornet with the American F16 Fighting Falcon an outsider.

# Israel plays down hope of Middle East peace

The Hague (Reuter) - The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, briefed Dutch leaders yesterday on the latest efforts to secure peace in the Middle East, while his officials continued to dampen speculation about a breakthrough.

Mr Peres spoke into the early hours of the morning with the US Assistant Secretary of State, Mr Richard Murphy, who only a day earlier had seen King Hussein of Jordan for talks on an international forum for peace negotiations.

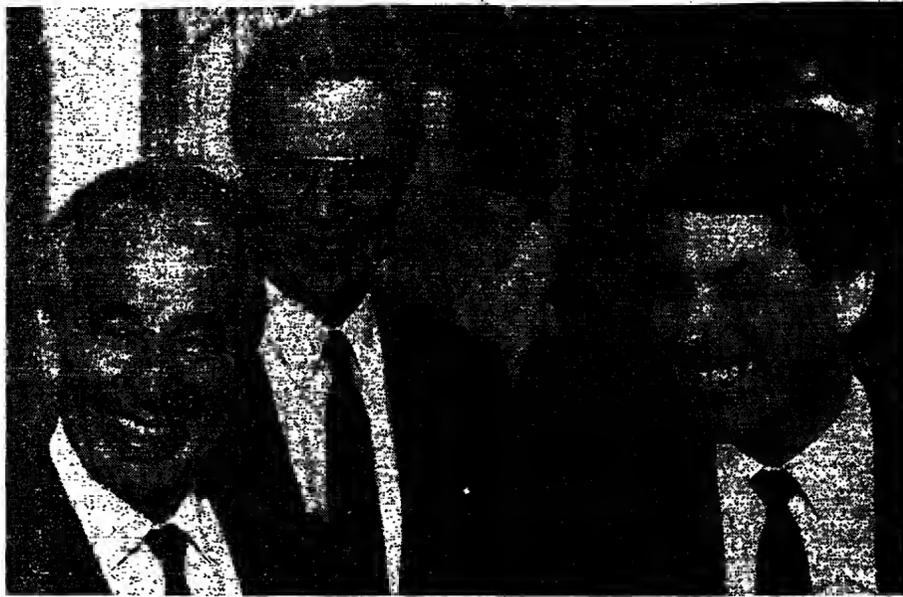
After a few hours' sleep, the Israeli leader, who began a 10-day European tour here on Sunday, saw the Dutch Prime Minister, Mr Ruud Lubbers, to bring him up to date on developments.

An Israeli spokesman said Mr Peres could meet Mr Murphy again this week when the two are in Britain, but he tried to counter suggestions that the series of meetings presaged a Jordan-Israeli agreement on terms for peace negotiations. A senior official commented: "We are not on the verge of a major dramatic breakthrough."

Mr Peres said on Sunday that important problems remained in working out the format for the proposed international forum on the Middle East, and how the Palestinians would be represented.

One key question relating to the forum closely concerns The Netherlands, and Dutch officials suggested it may have been on the agenda when Mr Peres saw Mr Lubbers.

Israel insists that the Soviet Union can have no role in the forum unless the two countries have diplomatic relations.



Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister (left), before yesterday's talks at The Hague with his Dutch counterpart, Mr Ruud Lubbers (right), and the Foreign Minister, Mr Hans van den Broek.

# Israelis must tighten their belts further

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

All Israelis are going to have to put up with a great deal more austerity in the year ahead. That was the clear message from Mr Yitzhak Modai, Israel's Finance Minister, when he introduced his \$21,600 million (£14,790 million) budget in the Knesset (Parliament) yesterday.

The outline of the budget has been fought over inside the Cabinet for several weeks, and Mr Modai has made no concessions in his demands for cuts totalling \$800 million.

Subsidies on a whole range of goods are to be reduced, parents are going to have to pay the \$60 annual education levy for their children, old-age pensioners and the disabled will have restricted benefits, and 4,000 government employees will lose their jobs.

Military commanders are already complaining about the effects of reductions in the defence budget, which spends about a quarter of all the available money.

There will be some incentives to help the self-employed, but overall everyone is expected individually to make a contribution towards holding down government spending, check inflation and restore the economy.

Mr Modai knows that Labour Party members, who should support the coalition Government, are still threatening to vote against the proposals if cuts in education and health services are brought in. The

budget will be debated throughout the week.

Yesterday the trade union Histadrut Health Fund, which provides care for about 75 per cent of the population, announced that the Government currently owed it \$37 million and that it was running out of money to buy drugs.

Representatives of the country's 22,000 nurses have been threatening to strike from today unless they are given a better pay deal.

# Caution over further reforms in Hong Kong

From Mary Lee Peking

Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who is on a four-day tour of China, said that in his discussions yesterday with officials in Peking they had "agreed to allow the system of indirect elections to Hong Kong's Legislative Council to settle down."

Observers say this suggests that Britain may not introduce any further political reforms towards representative government in Hong Kong unless they are approved by Peking, Mr Renton added. "Our ideas were closely in line with each other."

Mr Renton met Mr Zhou Nan, the Deputy Foreign Minister, who headed the Chinese team in the negotiations over Hong Kong, Mr Wn Xueqian, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Ji Pengfei, head of the State Council's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office.

He said the issue of representative government in Hong Kong was discussed, but not in detail. "We agree above all on the need for consensus of a system that is evolving and at which will be laid down in the Basic Law (the post-1997 constitution the Chinese are drafting for Hong Kong)."

Asked why he and other British officials were now using the Chinese term "convergence" when in the past he had said it was up to the Hong Kong People to decide on the future political system, Mr Renton said: "We don't have any preconceived ideas nor do the Chinese... If you can come up with a better term, I'll use it. You must not see failures and sinister motives where they don't exist."

He said the status of non-Chinese Hong Kong residents - Indians, Pakistanis and Eurasians - was raised with Mr Ji. After 1977 the non-Chinese would become British Nationals (overseas), or BNOs, or have British overseas Citizen passports. "They will be able to apply to China for citizenship and his will be considered by the appropriate authorities in line with Chinese law."

He reiterated that China and Britain had a common interest in Hong Kong's continued stability and prosperity.

Describing Hong Kong as being "very inward-looking" on matters relating to its future, Mr Renton said that questions about the size of the British battalion and, later, the Chinese People's Liberation Army in the territory, as well as how the future Hong Kong Government can be made "accountable" to the legislature "are details which have to be worked out".

# Iran leader takes a look at Africa's front line states

Harare - President Ali Khamenei of Iran arrived yesterday for a three-day visit on the last leg of a tour of the southern African front-line states (Jan Raath writes).

He has already visited Tanzania, Mozambique and Angola during the past week.

A spokesman for the Iranian Embassy here said the President wanted to assess the situation in the countries most affected by South Africa, and to make contact with the liberation movements, particularly the Muslim groups involved in the struggle against the South African apartheid system.

Government officials are also expected to lobby support for Iran in its war with Iraq.

# Yugoslavia: Radomir Veljkovic

By Caroline Moorehead

A former Yugoslav army officer, forcibly retired in 1967 after repeated minor disagreements with the military authorities, has been confined in the psychiatric section of Belgrade Prison Hospital for more than 12 years. His name is Radomir Veljkovic and his family maintains that since his confinement he has been given drugs which have affected him mentally and physically.

In an appeal for his release, in the spring of 1983, they wrote: "We would draw attention to the fact that he committed his political offences in a moment of despair over having been prematurely retired and over many other injustices."

The "political offences" to which they referred were writes issued by Radomir Veljkovic between 1969 and 1972 accusing President Tito of responsibility for crimes and abuses allegedly committed by the state security police.

It was on account of these writings that Radomir Veljkovic was arrested and tried and, in March 1973, found guilty of

# PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

"damaging the reputation of the state." The court at Sarajevo ruled that he was not accountable for his actions and was "dangerous to his surroundings". It ordered that he be compulsorily confined in a psychiatric institution.

Earlier, however, he had undergone a series of specialist examinations after he had problems finding work when he was discharged from the Army in 1967. From each, he emerged with a report stating that he was not suffering from any mental illness. In 1970 the neuropsychiatrist of Zvezica Medical Centre pronounced him sane.



Mr Veljkovic: Held for 12 years in psychiatric ward.

# Australian minister in London

## Delicate talks continue on clean-up of test sites

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Delicate negotiations on the recommendations of the Royal Commission into British nuclear tests in Australia are to continue in London after the arrival today of Senator Gareth Evans, the Australian Minister for Resources and Energy.

Canberra sources said Mr Evans was expected to meet Mr Norman Lamont, Minister for Defence Procurement, tomorrow morning as a follow-up to exploratory talks earlier this involving Australian and British officials.

Neither side has adopted an official position on the finding by the commission that Britain should pay for a new clean-up of nuclear test sites in Australia. But talks are likely to concentrate on the wording of the commission's recommendation that such an operation should render two contaminated sites in South Australia, Maralinga and Emu, "fit for unrestricted habitation by the traditional Aboriginal owners as soon as possible".

Maralinga is by far the more hazardous of the two sites, according to the commission, requiring continuing patrols to keep isolated a large quantity of radioactive waste, including more than 20kg of highly-toxic plutonium, plus uranium and Beryllium.

The commission considered a number of options in a clean-up of Maralinga, which it estimated could cost more than £110 million.

Probably more fertile ground for the talks at this stage would be the commission's proposal that a Maralinga commission be appointed from representative of Aboriginal group, and the British, Australian and South Australian government.

Its function would be to determine criteria for a clean-up and oversee it. The Australians will be hoping to hear that Britain is willing to Co-operate at least to this extent before Mr Evans leaves for the US after tomorrow's talks.

## When villains start working 9 to 5, so will we.

Like most other white collar workers, police officers work at least eight hours a day, five days a week.

**HARROW:** An old lady hasn't been seen for a few days and the milk is piling up on her doorstep. A Woman Police Constable breaks in and finds her dead on the floor. Foul play? The Inspector and Police Surgeon are called in.

There the similarity ends. In a place like London, accidents, football matches, demonstrations, crime, tourists, and the like keep us busy twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

And since quite a lot of our work involves dealing with London's anti-social elements, anti-social hours are what we tend to work.

You could find yourself up well before the lark on Early Turn, 6am to 2pm.

Or you could be putting in a hard day's night while most law-abiding folk are comfortably parked in front of the television.

Look on the bright side, though. While everyone else is slaving away at work, you can spend an afternoon in the garden or at the squash club.

**SO MUCH FOR ROUTINE.**

There's not much chance of anyone settling into a comfortable routine in the Metropolitan Police.

It's one of the few occupations where you can turn up for work and not have an inkling of what the day holds in store for you. You could be called to the scene of a fatal accident, or an armed robbery.

Or you could spend the afternoon in a community centre helping to sort out old people's problems.

Every day, you'll find yourself in situations that demand something different from you.

By turns, you'll be a tourist guide, marriage guidance counsellor, diplomat, child psychologist, criminologist, self defence expert, first aid specialist, lawyer and speaking clock.

Every one of these jobs requires different individual qualities.

You need them all to get into the Metropolitan Police Force.

**How do you measure up?**

First of all, you must be at least 162 cms tall if you're a woman and at least 172 cms if you're a man.

Ideally, the academic qualifications we're looking for are around five good 'O' levels.

Nevertheless, people who've got a string of 'A' levels won't get in if they don't possess all the right personal qualities.

You'll need a lot of common sense, a genuine concern for people, a strong sense of fair play, an agile mind in a fit body and a well developed sense of humour.

And as these aren't the sort of things we can discern from an application form, you'll have to go through our two-day selection process.

**A copper earns every penny.**

The pay is very good. Considering some of the things we'll ask you to do for it, it has to be. At 18½ (our minimum age), the least you'll start on is £9,108, including London allowances.

If you're a bit more mature, you'll be better equipped to help us. So over 22's start on more.

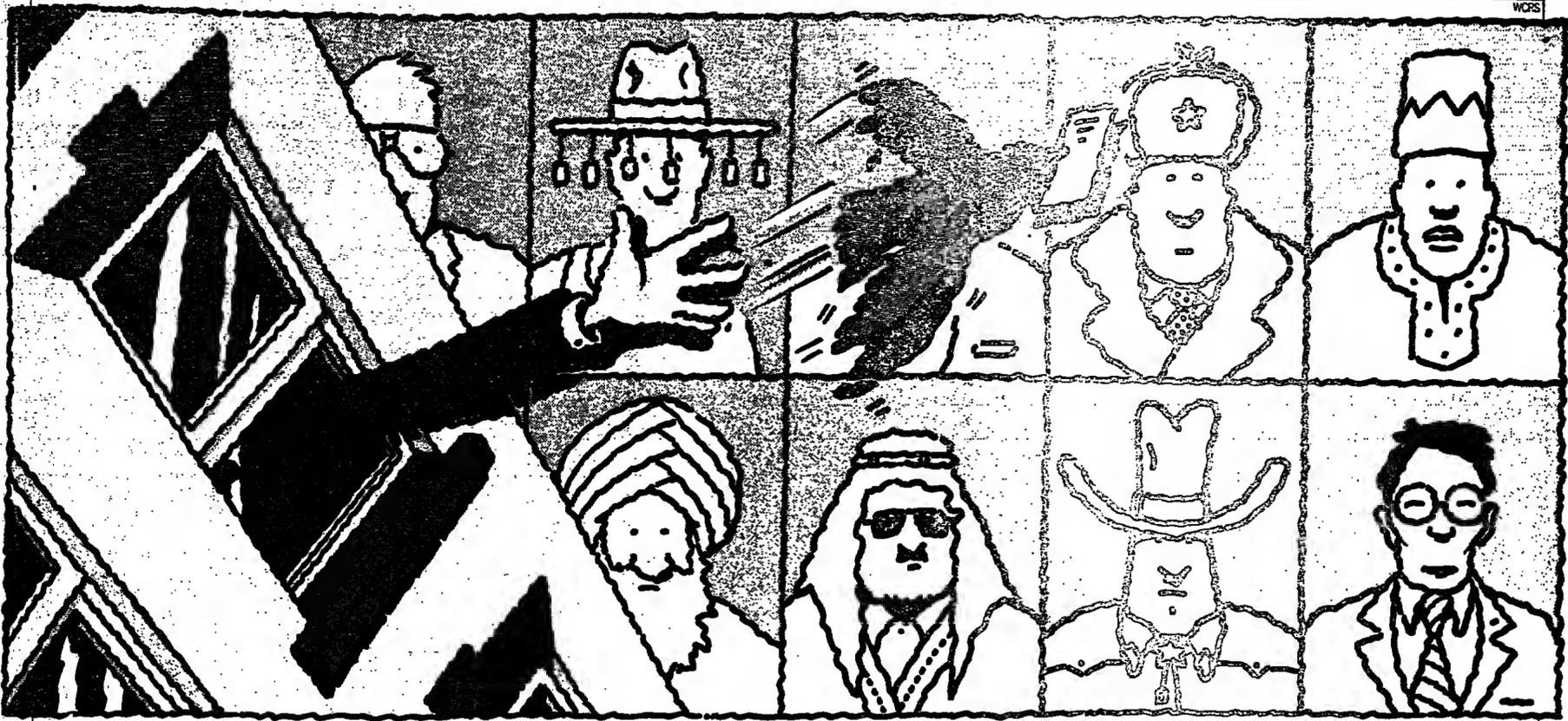
As you gain experience and make progress in the Force, your salary will keep pace.

Although you can be sure the hours won't get any easier. For further information, phone (01) 725 4575. Write to the Appointments Officer, Careers Information Centre, Dept. MD613, New Scotland Yard, London SW1H 0BG. Or visit us at our Careers Information Office in Victoria Street.

\* These vacancies are based on real events, but to help preserve the fiction the locations have been changed.

Caution over further reforms in Hong Kong

From Mary Lee Peking  
The British government has warned that it will not support any further reforms in Hong Kong unless the Chinese government shows the necessary flexibility. The Foreign Office said that it was disappointed that the Chinese government had not shown more flexibility in the negotiations over the future of Hong Kong. The British government has been clear that it will not support any further reforms in Hong Kong unless the Chinese government shows the necessary flexibility. The Foreign Office said that it was disappointed that the Chinese government had not shown more flexibility in the negotiations over the future of Hong Kong.



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PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

London  
... continued  
... of test sites

### Top Mafia accused dies from cancer

From John Earle Rome

The number of defendants in the Mafia trial opening in Palermo on February 10 has decreased to 474 with the death from cancer in a Swiss nursing home of one of the most prominent accused, Nino Salvo.

Signor Salvo, aged 57, was arrested in November 1984 together with his cousin, Signor Ignazio Salvo. They held a government concession to collect taxes in most of Sicily. A leading supporter of the Christian Democrats, Signor Nino at one time had the reputation of being able to make and break Sicilian regional governments.

The two were arrested on charges of Mafia activities as a result of the testimony of Signor Tommaso Buscetta, the former Mafia and Cosa Nostra leader who has turned state's evidence.

He will be a leading prosecution witness at the trial, the biggest involving the Mafia, for which a special high security courtroom has been built near Palermo's main prison. He accused Signor Nino Salvo of sheltering him after his escape from detention in Turin in 1980.

As Signor Salvo's health worsened, he was released from jail and was allowed last summer to seek specialist treatment at Bellinzona, in Italian-speaking Switzerland. His cousin has been put under house arrest. The two built up a business empire based on vineyards, tourism and real estate, but much of their assets have been put under sequestration.

### Joint troop exercises anger North Korea

From David Watts Tokyo

Tokyo - North Korea has suspended further contacts with the South for the duration of the annual South Korea US military exercises starting on February 10 (David Watts writes).

After delaying the decision for some time, the two nations decided at the weekend to go ahead as planned with their Team Spirit exercises, involving 200,000 troops, which last until April. North Korea had earlier called on the South to cancel the manoeuvres as a gesture of good faith after reporting the cancellation of a northern exercise starting on February 1.

The announcement of Team Spirit was delayed for some time as though the South was considering its cancellation.

Had the South and Americans been willing to respond to the North it would have been difficult to call off the manoeuvres which were in an advanced stage of preparation. **SEOUL:** Two South Korea students have been sentenced to death for spying for North Korea and stirring social unrest (Reuter reports).

Yang Dong Hwa, aged 27, a student of Chosun University, and Kim Sung Han, aged 28, from Yonsei University, were found guilty of violating the country's national security law by passing political and social information to Pyongyang. They had been recruited by North Korean agents while studying in the US.

They were also convicted of causing anti-government and anti-US student demonstrations on university campuses in southern areas of the country.

### Hollywood comes to Silver Mountain

## Poles hitch ride on a White Dragon

Nothing glitters any more in Silver Mountain, a broken-down township perched on the Polish side of the Tatra range. Since the 17th century silver rush the community led a quiet existence, barely noticing the arrival of communism. It has three shops, a school, a bar and more goats than people. The conversation was limited to soccer, small-time smuggling (from Czechoslovakia) and snow - until a few weeks ago.

By Roger Boyes

Then in a caravan more appropriate to Tsar Peter the Great, Hollywood rode into town, with its cameramen, make-up experts, stunt men, and bustling production assistants with clip and clapperboards.

By Hollywood standards it was probably a discreet entry. Silver Mountain (Srebrna Gora in Polish) reeled. Within hours the villagers were queuing to offer themselves and their goats as unpaid extras. The film men started to adapt the town, building a fake well in the centre.

The invaders had landed in Silver Mountain to shoot *White Dragon*, a fantasy film in the Steven Spielberg mould. The film is not astonishingly original: it is a fairy tale with a social conscience, deploying conventional devices.

These include a wizard, a dragon, murderous thugs employed by an evil magnate to get a brave hero, a pretty 16-year-old girl, a chase through caves, a happy, noisy ending. Just add sugar and stir.



A mystery white horse protects Allison Balson, who stars as a cave guide in the US-Polish fantasy film

duction may start in small revolution in international film-making.

Legend Productions of Los Angeles supplies the stars, the script and some equipment. Poland provides the director, the camera-work and the locations. CBS will distribute the film with the Americans taking

Krzysztof Zanussi and Janusz Morgenstern (the director of *White Dragon*), expert cameramen and technicians and adequate studios at bargain prices. The *White Dragon*, a full-length feature, will be made for a little over \$1 million.

"Nowadays", says Morgenstern "You would be lucky to produce a video spot for that amount." Allison Szpak, a Polish emigrant who is co-producing, reckons the film would have cost \$9 million to make elsewhere.

The advantage for Poland is in distribution and publicity. Polish films are still regarded as rather a specialist, exotic taste, hardly touching the consciousness of general audiences. The East Europeans have never managed to promote their films to mass European audiences. Under the co-production agreement, this is now the responsibility of CBS.

Director Morgenstern had the disadvantage of starting half way through the shooting because the original director Jerzy Domaradzki became ill. Despite her liking for Polish specialities, it was difficult to see how 16-year-old actress Allison Balson (who plays a beautiful blonde guide through the caves) managed to survive without cheeseburgers and peanut butter.

There are still worries such as whether the special effects will look professional enough but more East-West co-productions are on their way. Morgenstern has proposals from Britain and the United States.

And in Silver Mountain the villagers have decided to keep their fake well. In the bar gossip is about films. The bar, of course, has been repaved Bialy Smuk - *White Dragon*.

## Meeting fails to bring progress on India-Pakistan peace treaty

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

The latest round of talks here between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan apparently failed to resolve differences on some of the key provisions of a proposed peace treaty.

Mr Romesh Bhandari, the Indian Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that, after fairly extensive discussions, Pakistan had given its alternative proposals which would be discussed again in March at a meeting of the Joint Ministerial Commission.

A comprehensive peace treaty has been under consideration by the Governments of Pakistan and India since late 1982. Pakistan has proposed a non-aggression pact and India a treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation.

The Foreign Ministers and Secretaries have held several meetings over the past year and hope to evolve a mutually acceptable draft peace treaty by marrying the two suggestions.

According to well-informed sources, India and Pakistan hold divergent views on the right of the two sides to have recourse to international forums, such as the United Nations, the event of a deadlock on bilateral issues.

Pakistan is known to have serious reservations on both these accounts, primarily because of the lingering Kashmir dispute and the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Mr Bhandari, sought, however, to reassure his Pakistani opposite number, Mr Niaz Naik, that the promised visit this year to Pakistan by the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, would not achieve a breakthrough in the peace treaty negotiations.

The setback in the treaty talks was somewhat offset by agreement on the substance of a legally binding undertaking between India and Pakistan not to attack each others' nuclear installations.

Agreement in principle had been reached between President Zia and Mr Gandhi in December. The Indian Foreign Secretary said he hoped that the agreement would be completed once certain technical details were sorted out.

A joint statement on the Foreign Secretaries' talks stated that both sides had agreed on the repatriation of civilian detainees in each country on completion of their sentences by the end of March this year.

## Delhi reshuffle to rejuvenate party

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi

A Cabinet reshuffle in the wake of a big shake-up in the ruling Congress (I) Party was intended to "rejuvenate and revitalize the party," Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister and president of the party, said yesterday.

Mr Arjun Singh, who was included in the Cabinet as Commerce Minister only two months ago after successfully negotiating an accord with the late Sant Harchand Singh Longowal on Punjab, was made vice-president of the ruling party.

He was reportedly punished for the tension and insecurity engendered by the question of Chandigarh's transfer to Punjab in lieu of yet-to-be demarcated Hindi-speaking villages in the state of Haryana.

Mr Shiv Shankar, an adviser of the Prime Minister on Punjab and other domestic matters, was appointed Commerce Minister.

Other changes in the Cabinet include: Mr Chandra Shekhar Singh, has been made Minister for Petroleum Affairs, the Oxford-Educated Mr P. Chidambaram has become Minister of State in charge of the Department of Personnel, and Mr P. A. Sangma, till recently in the Ministry of Home Affairs, has been appointed Minister of Labour. He replaces Mr T. Anjali, now one of the eight secretaries of the Congress (I) Party.

Mr Pranab Mukherjee, was dropped as Finance Minister by Mr Gandhi when he became Prime Minister in 1984, but was retained in the party's parliamentary board. He has lost his position on the board.

Mr Gandhi has also moved his two former parliamentary secretaries, Mr Oscar Fernandes and Mr Ahmed Patel, to the states as the Congress (I) Party chiefs, the former to Karnataka and the latter to Gujarat.

## Tense calm after Sikh temple clash Separatist hijackers face death

Delhi (Reuter) - A tense and uneasy calm held yesterday at Amritsar's Golden Temple, the Sikh's holiest shrine, as religious leaders and security forces sought to prevent another bloody clash between militant and moderate students.

Paramilitary forces had been rushed to Amritsar after violence and gunfire erupted on Sunday night, leaving three people wounded, plainclothes police searched the sprawling temple complex and pilgrim hostels in the city.

Earlier yesterday militants reoccupied a temple office from which they had been evicted on Sunday. Police said there was some scuffling.

The violence was sparked by rival plans to rebuild the Akal Takht, a temple building damaged when soldiers stormed the Golden Temple in June, 1984, to flush out Sikh separatist extremists.

The temple gunbattles heightened further the tension in Sikh-dominated Punjab where a language survey of 54 disputed villages was completed on Saturday to help resolve a bitter territorial squabble with neighbouring Haryana state.

Lahore (Reuter) - A Pakistan court yesterday sentenced three Indian Sikh separatists to death and seven others to life imprisonment for hijacking aircraft to Pakistan.

A special court judge, Mr Fazal Karim, acquitted four others and told the 10 they could appeal before the Lahore High Court within 30 days.

The Sikhs had hijacked two Indian airliners to Lahore, capital of Punjab province, in September, 1981, and July, 1984.

The three sentenced to death were from a group of nine who hijacked an Indian Airlines Airbus on July 5, 1984, to publicize a demand for a separate "Khalistan" Sikh homeland in India's Punjab state. Two of the group were sentenced to life imprisonment and four were acquitted.

All five Sikhs who hijacked an Indian Airlines 737 on September 29, 1981, were sentenced to life imprisonment. When the sentences were announced the Sikhs, who had pleaded not guilty, chanted: "Long live Khalistan", "Death to Indian imperialism" and "Death to Rajiv Gandhi".

## Heroine of Sandinistas

Managua (NYT) - The Nicaraguan Government plans to name a heroine of the Sandinista revolution, the Deputy Foreign Minister, Señorita Nora Astorga, as its chief delegate to the UN.

An authoritative Government source said that Señorita Astorga's appointment would be officially announced in about a month. He said the Government had not decided on a new post for the present chief delegate, Señor Javier Chamorro Nora.

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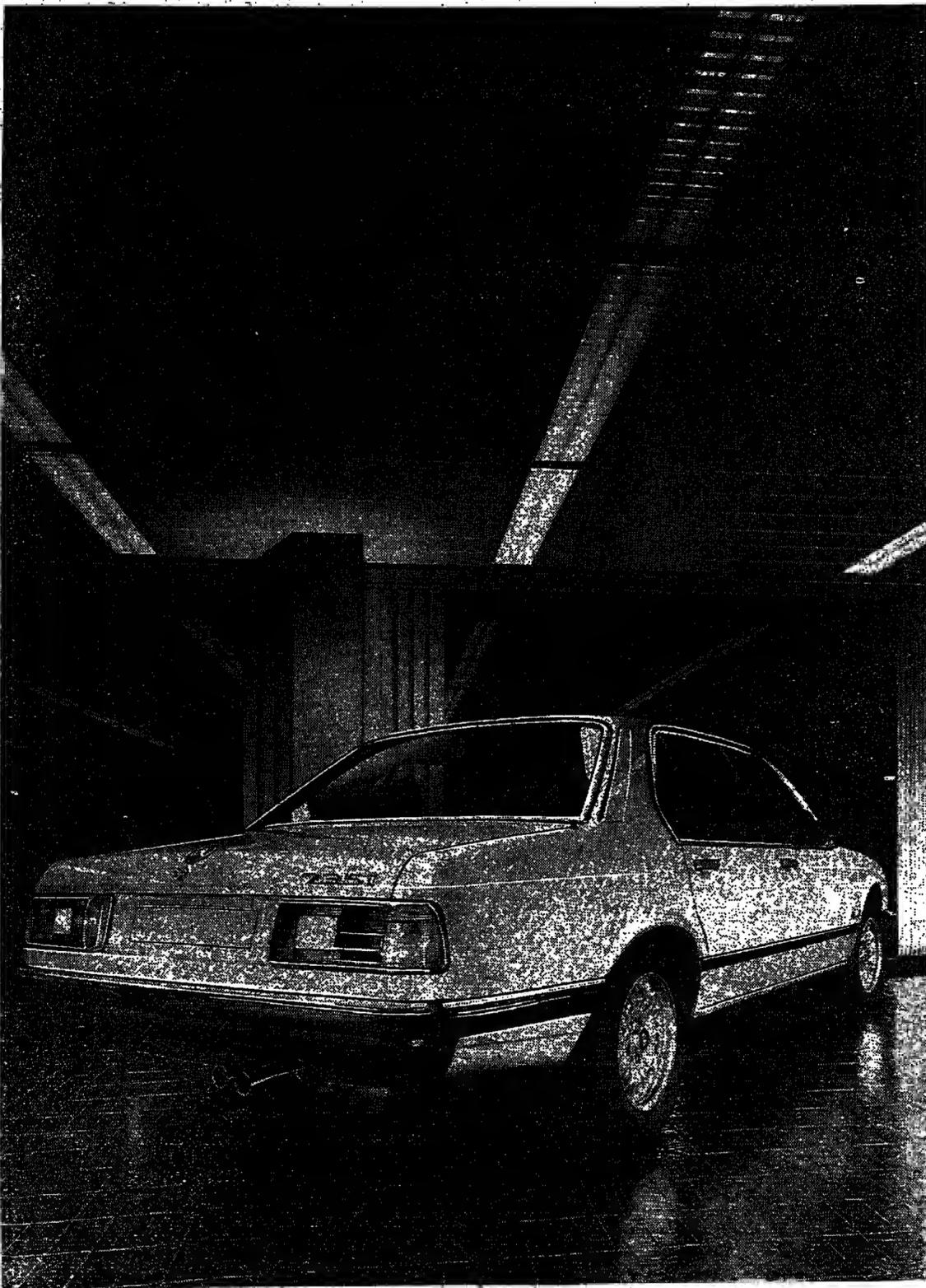
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Referendum threat

# Danish MPs likely to reject EEC reforms

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

A clear majority in the Folketing, Denmark's 179 seat Parliament, is expected to come out against Danish acceptance of the Luxembourg package of reforms of the EEC in a key vote today, plunging the country into a crisis with the other 11 member states of the Community.

The most likely outcome of the debate is the passing of a motion tabled by the opposition Social Democrats and supported by leftist and centrist parties, rejecting out of hand the reforms to the Treaty of Rome agreed by the heads of state in Luxembourg in December.

The motion could also call for Denmark's minority centre-right coalition, formed by four parties, to renegotiate the reforms.

It is highly doubtful whether the Luxembourg package can be renegotiated to suit Danish demands and Mr Poul Schluter, the Conservative Prime Minister, has threatened to call a national referendum on the Danish electorate's attitude to the Proposed reforms in late February or March, unless today's debate shows a broad parliamentary majority - including the Social Democrats, Denmark's biggest party, at present in opposition - for accepting them.

The powerful Social Democrats object to the reforms on the grounds that they bestow

increased power on the European Parliament and threaten Denmark's strict environmental policies and right of veto in EEC affairs.

Analysis here are puzzled about the quirky behaviour of the Social Democrats, whom they accuse of creating an unnecessary crisis for purely domestic and party political reasons by playing political poker with Denmark's future in the Community. Danish industry, agriculture and fisheries support the reforms, but the trade unions are deeply split.

Since the Conservative-led minority coalition came to power in 1982, after eight consecutive years of Social Democratic rule, the traditional parliamentary consensus between the main parties on foreign policy, notably membership of Nato and the EEC, has crumbled.

In opposition the often incoherent, divided and isolationist Social Democrats have forced Denmark to distance itself from Nato policies on missile deployment and now on the reforms, against declared policies of the centre right Government.

With its grave balance of payments and foreign debt problems and a generally shaky economy, most observers agree there is no practical alternative for Denmark to membership of the Community.

# Mounties accused of sexual harassment

From John Best, Ottawa

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) appeared to be in a quandary yesterday about how to deal with charges of sexual harassment and intimidation brought against the force by six present and former women members.

The six, all from British Columbia detachments, told the *Vancouver Province* at the weekend that female officers were leaving in record numbers because of discrimination.

One woman, who left after five years to work for the British Columbia provincial government, said: "I got tired of being propositioned by senior officers who thought you were a lesbian if you didn't and a slut if you did. When I complained I was told I had an attitude problem."

Wives of male officers made life difficult for another policeman until she got married. "The wives were unbelievable. They were all convinced you were sleeping with their husbands."

Still another, who has been with the RCMP for almost a decade, said: "I have had male members park outside my house so they could tell everybody who I was dating and who stayed overnight."

A spokesman at RCMP headquarters here said: "It's the first this office has heard about it. Without specifics names, times, places - there is not much we can do about it."

Since 1974 the RCMP has hired 800 policewomen, of whom 236 later left the force.



Mr Joseph Kennedy II, son of the late Robert Kennedy, and his wife Sheila look on as their son, Joseph, throws confetti after his father announced formally in Cambridge, Mass., that he would run for Congress.

# Top foreign policy priority

# US steps up the battle against 'low intensity warfare'

From Michael Binyon, Washington

American tourists are cancelling their trips to Egypt and Athens, US airlines are installing guards and cameras in their offices, diplomats drive to work in bullet-proof cars by circuitous routes, businessmen in bullet-proof vests jog under the eyes of their security guards, servicemen routinely look for bombs under their cars or run security checks on their foreign girlfriends. The American abroad has become a prime terrorist target.

Last year was one of the worst. Not only were there the spectacular hijackings of the Trans World Airlines flight 847 and the Achille Lauro cruise, with the murders of Robert Stethem and Leon Klinghoffer, but marines were shot dead in El Salvador, Americans killed and maimed in bomb attacks at Frankfurt, Rome and Vienna airports. US diplomats and journalists held hostage in Beirut, American businesses and interests threatened by urban terrorists in West Germany, Belgium and elsewhere around the globe.

The US is a prime target because of its extensive official and commercial presence overseas. Its policies, especially in the Middle East, are directly opposed by many terrorist groups. Pro-Western governments supported by the US are often those terrorists are trying to destabilize. And attacks against US targets guarantee publicity and exposure on the powerful US television networks.

Between 1975 and 1985, the State Department calculates, more than 5,000 terrorist incidents were recorded in the world: leaving roughly 4,000 people dead and 8,000 wounded. In the past decade almost 40 per cent were directed against Americans. In 1984 the US counted nearly 600 international terrorist incidents, an increase of 20 per cent on the average for the six previous years.

Risks International, one of many private security firms now advising US firms how to protect themselves abroad, gave the higher record figure of 3,525 serious terrorist acts for the year. It said 66 attacks, more than one a week, were staged against multinationals, 21 of which had a US connection.

The threat has shaken and angered all America. Fighting

terrorism, from any source, has become one of the Reagan Administration's top foreign policy priorities. President Reagan brought it up at the Geneva summit with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. The President and Administration officials have repeatedly urged a tough stand by Nato allies. They have in return proposed the swifter extradition of terrorism with friendly foreign governments.

Air marshals are to travel on many American planes from now on. A \$365 million (£250 million) programme is underway to improve the physical security of US embassies and missions worldwide, and this year the number of security guards will be doubled.

The State Department has set up a high level office to combat terrorism. The Army is rapidly expanding the strength and training of the crack Delta force set up to deal with hijacking and hostage-taking. The Central Intelligence Agency is devoting ever more time and money to keeping track of terrorist groups, and has now built up formidable dossiers.

With the hardening of public opinion, responsible voices are calling for a return to cover action, for the clandestine sale of defective arms and bomb material that explodes in terrorists' faces, for assassination squads to track down and eliminate the most notorious terrorist leaders.

Nevertheless, the current US effort to protect its citizens overseas is being sharply criticized as inadequate. And increasingly protection overseas is being offered by the 100,000 security companies in the US, which are enjoying an unprecedented boom.

Catalogues list a portable "kidnap recovery system", a device to immobilize an attacker with a beam of light, a car giving off a 6,000 volt shock when touched, a "telephone handkerchief" that trans a woman's voice into a man's. Private security spending, now running at some \$22 billion a year, is 50 per cent higher than the total annual budgets for all US police departments and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

None of this will eliminate the threat, which officials here gloomily predict will grow. "Terrorism is a form of low-intensity warfare," Mr Robert Oakley, head of the State Department's anti-terrorism office, said recently. "It is not an easy one to fight. There are no magic weapons. There are no quick fixes. We are in the struggle for the duration."



terrorists formerly protected by political status such as members of the IRA.

Congress has passed the 1984 Act to Combat International Terrorism, which provides for rewards for the conviction of terrorists. The Export Administration Act restricts the sale of certain items to countries of terrorism. The Anti-Terrorism Assistance Programme allows the US Government to help train



Leon Klinghoffer: Achille Lauro victim

# Anti-corruption campaign continues

# Peking attacks 'unhealthy car mania'

From Mary Lee, Peking

The Communist Party's mouthpiece, the *People's Daily*, in its latest attack on high-level corruption, has highlighted the "unhealthy car mania" among senior officials.

In a commentary yesterday, the newspaper said the senior cadres of some organizations whose poor finances made payment of salaries difficult, nevertheless "puff" themselves up to borrow large sums to buy luxury cars.

Some institutions and state-owned enterprises, it said, have bought "teas of cars which can

form a motorcade". De luxe models of cars, it added, could even be seen in narrow streets of county towns, where rural cadres used to live frugally.

"What influence will such ostentation and extravagance have?" the commentary asked, citing the example of an unnamed bureau director who borrowed 100,000 yuan (£22,000) to buy an official car which was then crushed in an accident with a truck. "The 100,000 yuan could have been used to build a new primary school," it said.

In another story, the paper gave the example of a poor area in Jiangxi province where some

people still had insufficient food and clothing but whose departments purchased 117 cars with misappropriated funds and illegally retained profits.

Observers said that "car mania" was an easy target in the anti-corruption campaign. They doubted, however, whether any of the senior officials who had secured luxury cars in the past year would be punished.

The anti-luxury car campaign explained, however, why the 8,000 party, government and military officials who attended a two-day conference in early January on corruption, turned up at the Great Hall of the People in buses rather than in

their official limousines, diplomats said.

Meanwhile, observers are waiting to see which senior officials will be jailed or executed for breaking the law. The call to punish such offenders "unfailingly" was issued last weekend by Mr Hu Qili, heir apparent to the party General Secretary, Mr Hu Yaobang.

In a 1982 revision of the criminal law, state personnel who take advantage of their offices to commit various economic crimes or who extort or accept bribes can face life imprisonment or the death penalty.

# Rebels murder white farmer in Matabeleland

Harare - A 48-year-old white bachelor was shot and bayoneted to death by anti-Government guerrillas this weekend, police reported here (Jan Raath writes).

He was the fifth white to have been murdered to the troubled western provinces of Matabeleland in less than three months, most of them in the rolling countryside of Nyamandhlovu.

Local residents said the man, a railwayman named Gasporina, who also ran a farm in the district, was ambushed at dusk as he left his vehicle to open a gate on Umgusa Ranch where he was expected as a guest for the weekend.

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The winning Channel Tunnel Group consortium faces a huge engineering challenge in launching its shuttle service by mid-1991

# The train takes the strain

The effect of yesterday's go-ahead for a fixed cross-Channel rail link could create up to 5,000 new jobs and secure the employment of 25,000 other workers

The Channel Tunnel will be the biggest civil engineering project this century. They are the words of Bill Shakespeare, one of the spokesmen for the Channel Tunnel Group. The claim was not exaggerated. What is not in doubt is the project's aim: to build a fixed link consisting of two single track tunnels, each with a diameter of 7.3 metres, and a service tunnel with a diameter of 4.5 metres between Britain and France, with access terminals at Cheriton, north-west of Folkestone, Kent, and Frethun, south-west of Calais. The tunnel's total length will be some 32 miles, or 50 kilometres, 37 of which will be below water.

What remains uncertain is whether the project can be completed within the limits of time and expense that the Channel Tunnel Group, the Anglo-French consortium which yesterday had its plan adopted by the governments of the two countries, put forward in its submission.

The CTG says the tunnel could be operational within four and a half years from the start of construction work. Given a year for final design and development work, the preparation and signing of an Anglo-French treaty for the project, the drafting and passing of enabling legislation and the completion of commercial contracts, that could mean the first shuttle trains arriving at their respective cross-Channel destinations in mid-1991.

CTG has costed the venture at £2,330 million, at 1985 prices, of which half would be spent on the tunnelling work. Here, changes in the rates of inflation, together with other economic variables, could add to costs, but the consortium is confident of its financial resources. The CTG group made

much of the lower cost of its scheme compared with its rivals for government approval, especially the bridge-tunnel, road and rail Euroroute scheme proposed by a group headed by Sir Nigel Brookes of Trafalgar House. That venture was variously costed at between £4,700 million and £7,500 million, including allowances for inflation.

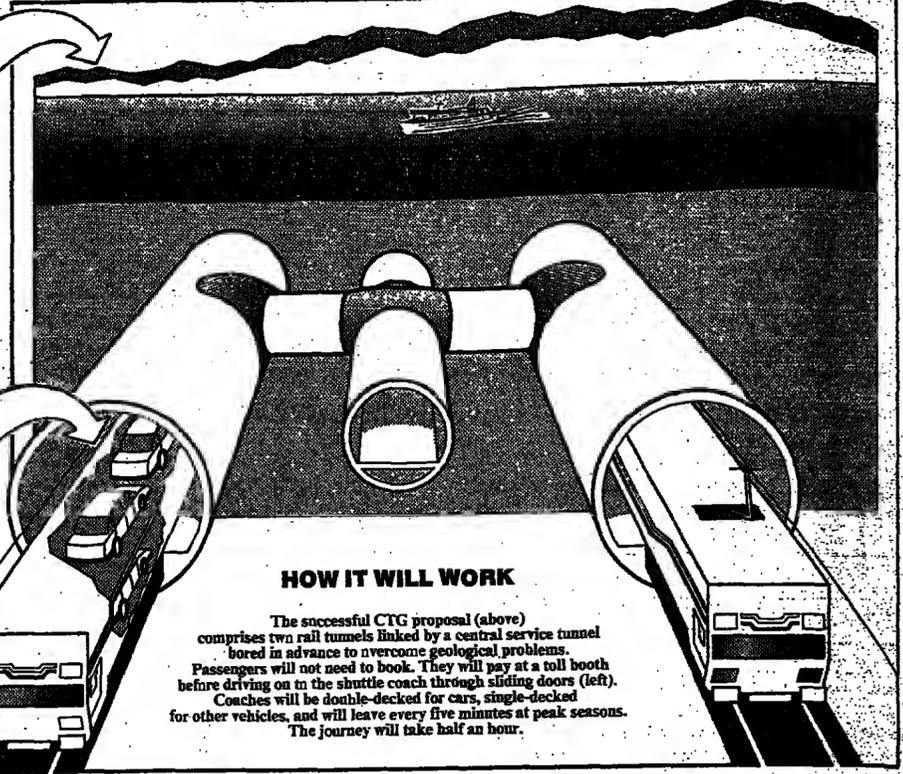
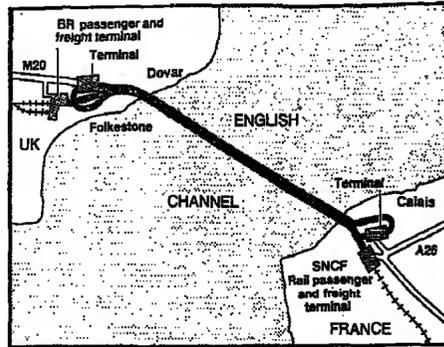
CTG's scheme appealed to the government-appointed assessors and ministers anxious to calculate the fixed link's potential political advantages, because it combined relatively low costs, borne by private investors, with comparatively fewer technological risks, and provided extra jobs, at least during the construction period.

The tunnel's engineering work will involve the creation of at least 5,000 jobs, CTG says, and will also involve about 25,000 other workers in Britain. CTG says the engineering and construction work will be spread across Britain, with contracts going to companies in the North, the Midlands, Scotland and Wales.

Last year, CTG estimated that £130 million-worth of pre-cast concrete tunnel linings would be required from companies in the Midlands and North of England. Reinforcing steel, worth some £15 million, would come from Wales and the North-east, while cast-iron tunnel linings from the Midlands and North-east are likely to be worth £30 million in orders.

The tunnel-boring equipment, together with remaining construction plant, will be bought from all parts of Britain, CTG says, but with most being made in the East Midlands and in Scotland. It is likely to be worth £100 million in orders.

Other raw materials, mostly cement and aggregates, will come from the South-east and



### HOW IT WILL WORK

The successful CTG proposal (above) comprises two rail tunnels linked by a central service tunnel bored in advance to overcome geological problems. Passengers will not need to book. They will pay at a toll booth before driving on the shuttle coach through sliding doors (left). Coaches will be double-decked for cars, single-decked for other vehicles, and will leave every five minutes at peak seasons. The journey will take half an hour.

South-west, as well as from Wales, at an estimated cost of £30 million. A system to remove spoil from the tunnels is likely to come from Scotland and the North-west of England, and be worth £24 million.

Equipping the tunnel and providing specially built rolling stock for the rail link will add to the cost and provide extra jobs. Power, lighting, signalling and control equipment will be manufactured in the Midlands, the North-east and South-west, CTG says, at a cost of £27 million; £24 million is likely to be spent in the North and South-west on ventilation and cooling equipment.

Finally, the locomotives and rolling stock should provide work in the engineering industry in the Midlands and North-west. CGT expects to spend £160 million on them.

The French members of the consortium, linked under the title France Manche, predict that about the same number of jobs will be created, directly and indirectly, as in Britain, many in similar industries.

When work begins on the site at the Shakespeare Cliff, Dover, CTG will be able to take advantage of the extensive workings begun there, and at Sangatte, near Calais, in 1974. The CTG consortium includes several large British civil engineering groups, Balfour Beatty, Costain, Tarmac, Taylor Woodrow and Wimpey, as well as some of their French counterparts. Even with their combined experience, the tunnel will present major engineering challenges.

One big advantage, though, is the geology of the Channel bed along the tunnel's route. A layer of lower chalk, subdivided into chalk marl as well as white and grey chalk strata, runs between Britain and France at this point. Impervious to water, it is ideal tunnelling material.

Near the French coast, however, the tunnel will rise above the lower chalk layers, and a grouting technique, injecting a cement and clay mixture into the ground, will have to be employed before tunnel sections can be worked.

Gregory Neale

### FUNDING

Channel Tunnel Group's scheme in partnership with France-Manche is costed at £2.67 billion at current prices; but when all costs, like those of servicing bank loans, are taken into account the bill is expected to be £4.2 billion. In addition, another £1 billion is having to be secured as a contingency fund to cover any unexpected overruns on costs.

There are several main phases in raising the money. Already some £25 million has been spent and this together with about as much again is being injected by the founder shareholders in CTG.

On the British side, these include two of the high street banks, National Westminster and Midland, with five large construction companies. With smaller stakes are Granada and Mobil Oil.

In France the founder shareholders, in addition to five construction companies, include two banks, Credit Lyonnais and the Banque Nationale de Paris. When later this year the

second reading of the Channel Tunnel Bill is completed in the Commons, the intention is to float £150 million in equity financing to provide additional capital before the legislation is passed and the concession enters into force. Without parliamentary assent this should be done by March, 1987.

That is when the second big financing to foot the construction bills will take place. There are already promises of bank support to the extent of £4.2 billion. Some 34 international banks, including those which are founder shareholders, have made provisional commitments to provide up to this amount in development loans. The main backing is from European banks, but 13 Japanese banks have equalised their intention to put up £1.64 billion.

At the same time another £1 billion will be sought by share placings in London and Paris. In the United States CTG's interests are being looked after by Salomon Brothers; but so far there are no plans for direct share offerings on Wall Street. In a drive for as wide a public shareholding as possible the

main targets will, in addition to Europe, be the United States and Japan.

CTG is budgeting in the first full year of operation for an operating revenue in excess of £400 million against operational costs of some £80 million. On this basis there would be a dividend in the first 12 months, running into 1994, of 17 to 20 per cent, according to CTG. Subsequently the return is expected to be around 20 per cent.

CTG has been negotiating an option for £750 million from the European Investment Bank, but says that because of the big response from the international banks this may not be needed.

The bank loans are intended to be wiped off by the issue of loan paper. All loans are intended to be paid off over 18 years. CTG has given an undertaking to earmark the maximum of available earnings for shareholders' dividends. Those subscribing for the £750 million in shares later this year will get preferential treatment in recognition of extra risk.

Derek Harris

### THE LOSERS

Of the 10 entries in the fixed-link stakes those shortlisted, excluding the successful CTG, were Euroroute, a drive-through bridge and tunnel crossing with a separate rail tunnel; Eurobridge, a rail tunnel and drive-through tube bridge; and Channel Expressway, a road and rail tunnel.



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## Short, sharp - but a failure?

Nearly a year ago, military-style detention centres were adopted for young offenders - but the results have often been disappointing

The Conservatives voiced their enthusiasm at the 1979 party conference when William Whitelaw, then Home Secretary, announced the "short, sharp shock" for young offenders as part of the Tory drive for law and order. But those who applauded then would now probably be astonished and even angry if they could see what is really happening in at least one detention centre, where the hard line has been softened and boys are allowed such privileges as television and magazines.

Not only have the supposedly military-style detention centres been adapted to a less rigorous regime, with formal drills and extra physical education dropped, but they have failed to be effective deterrents, according to the Home Office. And a further irony is that punishments, including beatings, allegedly handed out by the boys themselves at kangaroo courts at one centre are far tougher than anything envisaged by the Government.

**'We don't have drill - we teach them to parade'**

Today, almost a year since the announcement that the experimental regime would be extended to all detention centres on March 6, 1985, the "short, sharp shock" remains the target of fierce criticism from penal reform groups.

The regimes had proved to be "one of the most clear-cut failures of modern penal policy", according to Ms Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

A Home Office evaluation report in 1984 concluded that the military-style regimes had neither deterred those leaving more offences nor had any apparent effect on general levels of crime. Seven out of 10 youths



leaving detention centres are known to be reconvicted within two years.

Detention centre staff have been caught in an impossible dilemma between what the kangaroo courts, with punishments meted out at secret sessions held by trainees, if anyone is found guilty of "grassing" or "nicking" - some of the worst offences against the underworld code - he is covered with a blanket while other detainees, wearing slippers, jump on him. The sting is taken out by the blanket and slippers, boys say. But if anyone is marked, he will claim to staff that it has been done accidentally.

But when we put the boys' claims to staff they said they had not heard of any such secret courts. Mr Ian MacIntosh, branch secretary of the Prison

The Government's shock tactics rhetoric conflicts with some deeply held traditions in the prison service. They centre on the wish to rehabilitate, embodied in Rule 1 of the prison rules: that emphasizes that prisoners should be encouraged and assisted to lead a good and useful life. Then there is Rule 4, which requires that offenders be assisted to develop personal resources and aptitudes.

But how can that be done in three weeks, the shortest supposed shock the court has available to them? The longest sentence may be four months, but courts are not making the fullest use of the centres. In December only 414 places were taken out of the 720 available in the six junior centres and 978 out of 1,197 in 11 senior ones.

Mr Paul Ripley, education officer, says: "All boys have elementary training at computer keyboards. We specialize in numeracy and literacy training with the computer as a tool." The boys are also taught do-it-yourself skills.

### DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DETAINEE

6.45 Kitchen boys wash and shave, make up bed pack, clean bed spaces.  
7.15 Dormitory inspection.  
7.20 Dining hall for breakfast.  
8.00 Prepare in locker room for work.  
8-8.15 Work parade and inspection. School parties go to physical education until 9.0, the rest to work.  
12.15 Canteen work. Roll check.  
12.30 Serve lunch. Mail distributed.  
13.00 Clothing exchange of ill-fitting garments.  
13.45 Work parade. Trainees go to classes, physical education or work.

16.45 Cease work. Strip, wash before going to dormitory. Change from overalls into best prison uniform.  
17.00 To dining hall for tea.  
18.00 Disperse to evening classes, library or chapel.  
19.30 Evening classes cease. Trainees to dining hall for association, table tennis, and cards.  
20.15 Serve supper.  
20.50 To dormitories. Dormitory officers available to show how to fold kit, answer queries and discuss problems.  
21.10 Check dormitory numbers and hand over to night patrol.  
22.00 Lights out.

But alongside the official rules and discipline, boys say they learn from each other the hidden, harsher code of the kangaroo courts, with punishments meted out at secret sessions held by trainees. If anyone is found guilty of "grassing" or "nicking" - some of the worst offences against the underworld code - he is covered with a blanket while other detainees, wearing slippers, jump on him. The sting is taken out by the blanket and slippers, boys say. But if anyone is marked, he will claim to staff that it has been done accidentally.

But when we put the boys' claims to staff they said they had not heard of any such secret courts. Mr Ian MacIntosh, branch secretary of the Prison

Officers' Association said that if they did go on they were well concealed. "Certainly we would stamp on it with a heavy foot."

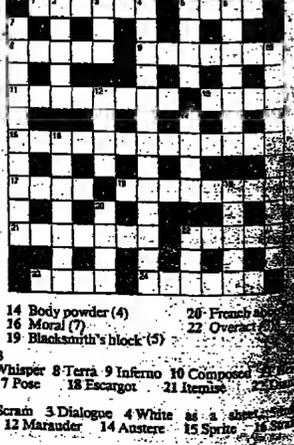
Whatton has not figured among which allegations have been made of mistreatment of trainees. Police are investigating allegations about Aldington, in Kent, and about Eastwood Park, near Bristol, and a formal inquiry has been held into an incident at the Usk centre in South Wales.

Other allegations have been made about Send in Surrey, but the Prison Department says they cannot be investigated because they were anonymous.

Peter Evans

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No. 854)

- ACROSS  
1 Roar (6)  
5 Effeminate (4)  
8 Decree (5)  
9 Stretch (7)  
11 Desire-free (8)  
13 Fall in drops (4)  
15 Sea scientist (13)  
17 Gostlike animal (4)  
18 Renounce (8)  
21 Sound measure (7)  
22 Shelter (5)  
23 Run away (4)  
24 Num's head cloth (6)  
DOWN  
2 Heath shrub (5)  
3 Permit (3)  
4 Salix Babylonica (7,6)  
5 Manage (4)  
6 Sovereign (7)  
7 Ingrained (4,6)  
10 Research (10)  
12 Figurative (4)  
13 Harum-scarum  
23 Element 24 Rhombus  
DOWN: 1 Ntuce 2 Scram 3 Dialogue 4 White as a sheet 5 Parvenu 7 Rioter 12 Marauder 14 Auster 15 Spritz 19 Guano 20 Fine



- 14 Body powder (4)  
16 Moral (7)  
18 Blacksmith's block (5)  
20 Overcast

THE ARTS

The Norwest Holst series at English National Opera, once such a promising idea, has produced disturbing results: Paul Griffiths asks what went wrong

Cheap and cheerless

The most dismal nights one tries to forget, and there would be no need to warm over the English National Opera's *Moses* if the production did not raise larger issues of programming policy.

But it did not turn out quite so simply. The producers of *Rienzi*, *Mazepa* and *Moses*, all acting no doubt after deep, honest and serious consideration of the scores, still all decided to set their assigned operas as twentieth-century political-military dramas.

One is not arguing that the productions should have been somewhat "neutral", far from it. The point is merely that the theatrical qualities of these works have by no means been fully explored; and, if anyone says that they have, then one needs some explanation of how it was that the three productions ended up looking so similar.

But setting aside the merits of these three productions, there is still the question of whether the right operas were chosen. After all, it was a curiously ambivalent choice that had to be made: these were to be operas that demanded to be seen, but only once, and then cheaply. They were to be good pieces, but not that good.

Perhaps *Mazepa*, of the three, does fall into this category of admirable neutrality; but *Rienzi* and *Moses* are far too interesting and problematic to be dismissed after a single outing. It would be nice to think the Norwest Holst productions were try-outs, but it is more likely these works will now be put back on the shelf.

Not only has the appetite for them been, however, bloodily assuaged, but the ENO might well think they were negating the whole point of the Norwest Holst series if they now prepared full-scale productions of *Rienzi* or *Moses*. And so we have probably lost the chance to see these operas done in London with the resources they need - at least until we have all forgotten about the last three seasons at the Coliseum.

A well-intentioned effort, laudably backed by industrial sponsorship, seems therefore to have missed its mark. Works like *Mazepa* are probably best left to the university companies, who can produce them in cut-price without this being a deliberate policy of restraint. And works like *Rienzi* and *Moses* should, if the ENO had any belief in them, be given the chance to enter the repertory on equal terms with other works offered at the Coliseum.

This is not to say there is no place for productions done in a tight budget, for there is indeed a very obvious area of enterprise where quickly mounted, expertly mounted (in the best sense) productions could be of enormous value: the area of new opera. Composers and librettists could well find stimulation in having to produce a work for limited resources, one which could be expendable on if it were a success, kept up for revival. Producers too might find it possible to behave more calmly when not trying to stage epic opera out of the petty cash.

If this could be the alternative avenue for another series of the Norwest Holst type, then the ENO might make an important contribution to the healthy turnover of new works: that opera needs if its present renaissance is to continue.

Galleries

Insights of feeling and atmosphere as well as mere shape

Caspar Neher: Brecht's Designer

Riverside Studios

Classical Antiquities from Private Collections in Great Britain/Rule Britannia!

Sotheby's

Selections from the Reader's Digest Collection

Wildenstein

With the almost mythical status that Brecht has assumed in the history of twentieth-century theatre, it is no doubt only to be expected that the Arts Council show devoted to the work of Caspar Neher, at Riverside Studios until February 16, should be tagged "Brecht's Designer", rather as if that was the only worthwhile function Neher ever served. True, by concentrating almost exclusively on Neher's long working relationship with Brecht, which rather surprisingly weathered a long separation while Brecht was in exile from Hitler's Germany and Neher was enjoying a fruitful and prolific career there, the show does achieve a certain neatness and coherence, but, if we are interested in Neher in his own right rather than merely as one of the Brecht constellation, it gives an irritatingly one-sided view.

That small grouse apart, however, it must be admitted that the show is unusually satisfactory as an art exhibition. That is because, though Neher was famed for the complete practicality of his theatrical thinking,

his training and background as a painter are always in evidence in his actual designs. They never seem to be merely an *aide-memoire* for those charged with the realization: they are beautifully fluid watercolours which would guide scene-painters and costume-makers not only to the physical shape of the sets and costumes but also to the atmosphere and feeling they are intended to convey.

In the work for Brecht particularly one can see Neher's close connections with the Neue Sachlichkeit movement in painting, major figures of which were friends and contemporaries. Many of these stage pictures belong appreciably to the same world of sentiment as Hubbuck's drawings of depressing happenings in the midst of urban squalor, or Grosz's savage views of the over-fed bourgeoisie at play, in recreating "the jungle of cities" Neher is quite their equal.

Because of its chosen limitation, the show leaves out Neher's work, much of it operatic, during the 13 years that he had no communication with Brecht and did not work on any Brecht production (from *The Seven Deadly Sins* in 1933 to the second *Mother Courage* in 1946). It is a pity, as John Willett observes in the book/catalogue which accompanies the exhibition, it was during this time that Neher had the chance to develop his "mastery of period and detail" which was to prove invaluable in the later Brecht designs.

The fact that he could get on all right with the Nazi authorities, even though he did not like them, is an interesting pointer; he was not, after all, the only artist connected with the Neue Sachlichkeit to stay in Germany and use his established style to ends which, being non-political, were not positively objectionable to the regime. And Mr Willett in any case seems to feel that Brecht's alternative of trying to reach an accommodation with Hollywood, the "lie market", was almost as dangerously a shaking hands with the devil.



Mrs Peachum savours her Cordial Medico: costume design by Caspar Neher for Pabst's film of the Brecht/Weill *Threepenny Opera*; and the "Armada Portrait" of Queen Elizabeth I from *Rule Britannia!*

What is surprising is that Neher's style remains so consistent throughout, and that despite their differing routes through the Nazi years he and Brecht were able to come together again so peacefully. Presumably the notoriously difficult Brecht realized, what is self-evident from this show, that Neher was quite simply the best.

The Ashmole Archive, the immediate excuse for the show of Classical Antiquities from Private Collections in Great Britain (Sotheby's, until January 31), is one of those invaluable and too little known tools for art scholars: created by Professor Bernard Ashmole, it consists of more than 10,000 photographs of ancient sculpture and is now housed at King's College, London. Proceeds from the sale of the catalogue will all go towards the preservation and ordering of the archive, and with this cause in view 29 owners of classical antiquities in Britain have been persuaded to put

them on public exhibition, in some cases for the first time ever.

The works come from Eton, Harrow, Chatsworth, Petworth, Holkham and various other private institutions or individuals, and range in time from a Cycladic idol to a couple of third-century marble portraits. It is, appropriately enough, a show which should go right to the hearts of those people most likely to use the Ashmole Archive; for the less specialized it has its charms in plenty, in the extraordinary quality of its ceramics, the stark simplicity of its metalwork, and the undeniable fascination of seeing whether one can detect for oneself how much any given piece - the monumental red porphyry foot of unknown provenance and purpose, for instance - owes to its original creators and how much to the art of some eighteenth-century restorer.

Visitors to Sotheby's whose interests do not range quite so far back in time may well enjoy looking in on

the loan show towards the Bond Street side. *Rule Britannia!* (until January 29), which as you might guess is in aid of a more immediately philanthropic cause, specifically the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Though many of the exhibits have little strictly artistic interest - models and memorabilia mostly - there are also enough paintings of naval events and persons with maritime associations, starting with the "Armada Portrait" of Queen Elizabeth I, to engage the interest of the least nautically-inclined.

Particularly worth noting are one of Clarkson Stanfield's grandest compositions, *The Victory Being Towed into Gibraltar with Nelson's Body on Board*, and James Holland's finely atmospheric *Greenwich Hospital*, while for connoisseurs of the bizarre there is the Dickinson and Foster *Members of the Royal Yacht Squadron* (1895), all set out in rows at the landing-stage in a way calculated to delight any surrealist. I would also recommend John Russett's rather dyspeptic pastel of Captain (though by then Admiral) Bligh's wife, which looks at a glance like a Renoir about a century too early. Poor lady: she probably had quite a lot to put up with.

Just over the road at Wildenstein is another loan exhibition which does not seem to be in aid of anything in particular, except the no doubt

worthy cause of impressing us with the superior taste and acumen of Lila Acheson Wallace, co-founder of *Reader's Digest*. Plus, presumably, reminding us that *Reader's Digest*, like so many major American corporations, takes its role of patron and supporter of the arts with becoming seriousness (the restoration of Monet's house and gardens at Giverny is just one of its benefactions). But, after all, no excuse it really needed for showing us so many beautiful paintings which we do not usually have a chance to see.

These Selections from the *Reader's Digest* Collection (35 in all), which may be seen until February 8, witness to a good, if for the 1940s somewhat conservative, middle-of-the-road taste. Monet, apparently, was Mrs Wallace's favourite painter, but in some ways the examples of less-favoured Impressionists, such as Sisley's *Women Laundering* or Pissarro's very late *Sunset at Moret*, are more remarkable. Other selections are agreeably unacknowledged: Matisse's dark-toned *Anemones and Mirror*, for instance, or Soutine's apparently straightforward but curiously menacing *Landscape at Cèpe*. And for sheer sensuous delight Vuillard's essay in the fairly unfamiliar genre of *Seaside*, dating from 1906, would be very hard to beat.

John Russell Taylor

Terry Gilliam (right), director of the controversial *Brazil*, has at last won the battle to have his film released in America. Ivor Davis reports from Los Angeles



Cinematic guerrilla

At the weekend American audiences - at last - had the opportunity to see Terry Gilliam's darkly comic film *Brazil*. Universal Studios, who put up more than \$8 million of the \$13 million required to make the picture, had deemed it finally worthwhile to release this black comedy. This is considered a major victory for Gilliam, who for several months had waged blistering and now effective guerrilla warfare to get his picture screened.

The film has already been shown for one week only in late December in Los Angeles, to qualify for Oscar consideration. It will now be unveiled so that the rest of the country can decide for themselves whether all the controversy surrounding the picture was just so much hype.

Few disagree that *Brazil* is a serious, provocative, intelligent film. Called *Brazil* not for the country, but for the 1930s song, the picture was seen in Britain some time ago. Gilliam designed *Brazil* as "a society dominated by a vast government that generates paperwork and stifles the human spirit". It has drawn some critical praise and reasonable box-office returns. The story recounts the tale of Sam Lowry (Jonathan Pryce) who is pitted against the system of a grim Orwellian future. The finale is the destruction of the hero, in both body and spirit, at the hands of an official torturer.

Mr Sidney Sheinberg, a man who wields considerable power and clout, and moves a lot of paperwork himself, as President of MCA (which owns Universal Studios), looked at the film and declared it too long. He suggested he would prefer it cut, with Gilliam giving the picture a happy ending.

Gilliam, who called his film "Walter Mitty meets Franz Kafka", refused to change the ending and, as often happens in such cases, the studio took the picture over and noted they had the right to approve the final cut because Gilliam's version, according to his contract, was 17 minutes too long.

The movie might have died in America or been banished to video shops, when Gilliam openly declared war on Universal. He took full-page advertisements in the Hollywood trade papers, asking "Dear Sid Sheinberg, when are you going to release my film *Brazil*?"

"A furious war of words broke out," Sheinberg says the film was "brilliant but flawed", and claiming Gilliam had breached his contract. Refusing to give up his David-and-Goliath battle, Gilliam secretly screened his version of the film for the Los Angeles critics, who promptly gave him three of their top awards for the year: best picture, best director and best screenplay.

Within 24 hours the studio had agreed to screen the picture for Oscar consideration and to show it to the New York film critics, who, although impressed, were less generous than their Los Angeles colleagues with their awards. Sheinberg then decided the film would get a nationwide airing, though he had previously insisted "We are going to do further work on the movie and examine which version (ours or his) is released." He later conceded that it was impractical to release another version. "If we did, we would face the prospect of having it reviewed against a phantom. It's a no-win situation."

Another studio official, who asked for anonymity, said: "We got a lot of bad publicity on this one, specially when trying to keep shouting about studios to attract talented film-makers and giving them the opportunity to do their creative best unhindered by executive interference. A few years ago we had *The Deer Hunter*. Everyone thought it was too long and too downbeat. But if it fell on its face they could always cut it later. The movie went on to win the best picture Oscar.

"With *Brazil* they've got millions invested and they'd be stupid not to try and recoup some of that money. Gilliam forced our hand - now we'll see if the American public agrees with him."

Concerts Lack of individuality

BBCSO/Bertini Festival Hall/Radio 3

There are bound to be odd occasions when the random assembles of concerts on the South Bank bump together interestingly, and here was one. While last Tuesday night's performance of Beethoven's *Missa solemnis* under John Eliot Gardiner was still fresh in the memory, Gary Bertini arrived to conduct BBC forces in Schubert's almost contemporary E flat setting of the office.

The comparison was perhaps responsible for Bertini's approach seeming so uninvolved, though the acoustics must share the blame: the Festival Hall is no place in which to field a choir of 40 and expect them to make a grand noise of the kind this work sometimes demands. At the same time, however, hearing Schubert soon after Beethoven helped distinguish the individual qualities of his Mass, which include most particularly its lack of an individuality.

Beethoven is constantly assailing the liturgical text so that he may speak for himself, Schubert blithely yields to the voices of others: voices from the past in his heavily traditional fugues, and just as

commonly voices from the future, whether the awesome grandeur of Bruckner in the startling harmonic progressions of the Sanctus, or the emotional Mariology of Gounod, or the almost savage drama of Verdi. One wonders how the Mass could have sounded before these voices declared themselves more fully, before Bruckner's motets sanctioned bold harmony as an expression of Christian fear before God's majesty.

Here, however, all the voices were muted, as if the nature of the performance had been decided by the ambivalent melodiousness of the opening of the Credo. Only the soloists injected life into the evening, especially Anthony Rolfe Johnson, being no more than discreetly vulgar in the "Et incarnatus", and Margaret Marshall, who gave the ensemble a golden top.

The orchestral playing was unremarkable except where the brass were concerned, and they had shone too in the other work, the Adagio from Mahler's Tenth Symphony, which became strangely Wagnerian in the sadly stretched strings having their exposure tactfully limited by sonorous horns and trombones.

Paul Griffiths

Nikolai Petrov Queen Elizabeth Hall

Had the words "transcribed by" not been appended to every piece played in this extraordinary recital of French piano music, the programme would have led one to expect an orchestral concert.

But it was a little odd to open with the 22-year-old Liszt's piano version of the Berlioz *Symphonic Fantastique*. The mighty Russian, Nikolai Petrov, launched into its myriad difficulties with a tense dedication that in the "Sommes from a Ball" movement quite defeated any spirit of the dance. Rhythm is not his strongest point. Not so his fingers - they can do anything. When the piano is asked to mimic the full orchestra Petrov comes into his own with chordal playing of almost incredible power and security.

I do not know how much Bizet was payed by Durand to make a solo transcription of Saint-Saëns's Second Piano Concerto, but he made a fair job of it. Unfortunately, Petrov has not the appropriate style. His massive fingers covered the keys at a great rate, but much of the treble work was percussively toned, graceless, humourless and very un-French.

It was only when we came to Ravel's own piano solo reworking of the choro-graphic poem *La Valse* that I was entirely convinced of Petrov's high ranking as an artist. He may have allowed it to sound more like Rachmaninov/Godowsky

than Ravel, but his sheer élan in exploiting the full sonority of the piano was memorable. The first encore was announced as what sounded to be "The Swan" from Saint-Saëns's *Carnival of the Animals*, but much to my disappointment it turned out that Petrov's accent had got the better of him - it was predictably "The Swan", arranged by Godowsky.

James Methuen-Campbell

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Television Baffling cloud of witnesses

Greece - The Hidden War was one of the new-style documentaries that have been appearing on Channel 4 made to this recipe: take one taboo subject (in this case the Greek Civil War), add archive footage, witnesses and a non-authoritative commentary, and "Hey Presto!". But this time it failed.

There were too many witnesses - so many one could not follow the thread of any one person's story - and, for the sake of economy, dire voice-over translations rather than subtitles were used.

Another flaw was the editing, with archive being continuously used to provide cut-aways to shorten talking heads. This is the laziest kind of film-making. The archive was also often unexplained and/or unconnected to the voice-over. But most serious of all was the use in the

second episode of colour footage of napalm exploding which left one wondering if material from a South-East Asian documentary had strayed into the wrong cutting room.

And so finally to the ideology, which was essentially sentimental leftist. During the Civil War both sides (Communists and Government) were hutchers, not just the right, and together they must be held responsible for the following decades of suffering. This is the historical truth (and not particularly contentious) but no mention was made of Communist atrocities in programme number three.

Horizon, Bitter Cold (BBC2) told the story of a British expedition to Antarctica to test human adaptability to the cold. David Pairé, the cameraman, has a natural history back-

ground, so the tensions which emerged amongst the group tended to be ignored in favour of icy landscapes.

The experiment unearthed little new physiological data and passed up a splendid opportunity to examine the psychological stresses. At the end one was left wishing the expedition like this would take place with them in future, as they would be better able to express the experiences of acute loneliness and deprivation than the scientists did here.

Roll out the Barrel (*Beer and Skittles*, Channel 4), the first of a new series of cartoons about the British pub, gave one the same pleasure as an Ealing comedy. It was very quirky and very British and deserves this week's gold star.

Carlo Gébler

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STARTS CANNON

THE TIMES DIARY

Hailsham's silent pillar

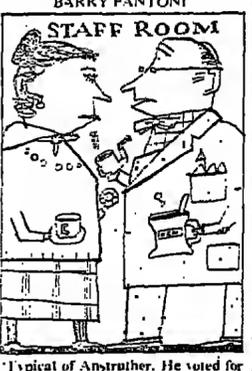
It is not only Mrs Thatcher who is authoritarian. Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, has just stopped Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson...

Royal ally

Prince Philip, I imagine, was rooting for Michael Heseltine as he fought to prevent an American deal with Westland. The prince recently wrote a foreword for a new magazine, Engineering Tomorrow...

Partial arts

Councillor Christine McKie, chairman of left-wing Southwark Council's leisure and recreation committee, seems to have taken to heart the Thatcherite plea to be your own boss...



Typical of Anstruther. He voted for a one-day strike during half-term.

Unaccountable

What further can be said of worms in Liverpool sitting on? By law, all local authorities must submit accounts for their direct labour organizations within six months of the end of each financial year...

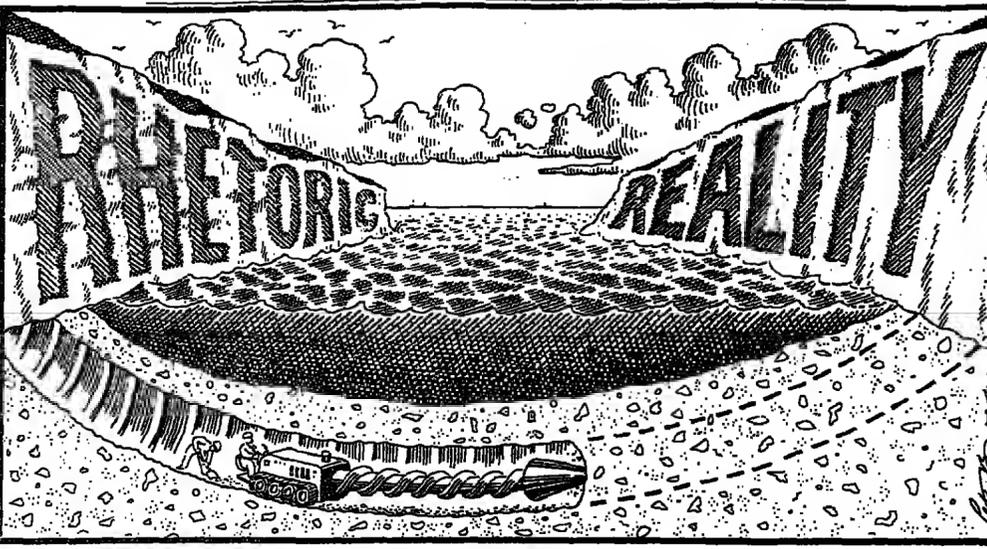
Arthur's aggro

Arthur Marshall, British ambassador in Aden, has become quite used to crises during his diplomatic career. He was in Athens when the colonels staged their coup in 1964...

Bad blood

If true, it would really set the cat amongst the pigeons. The Jerusalem paper HaBaita cites elders of a former Jewish community in Libya now transplanted to Israel...

Agreeing to differ: Christopher Tugendhat looks beyond the Chunnel decision to reconciliation of national and EEC identity



Out of step to a united Europe

In recent weeks British politics have been wracked by the Westland dispute at the same time as ministers have been finalizing their decisions on the nature of the fixed link to be built across the Channel.

Together, yesterday's meeting of prime minister and president in Lille and the Westland affair provide a fascinating illustration of British attitudes to Europe.

In the Europe-wide political context, as in a national one, the role of personalities in these battles should not be underestimated.

Italy, Emilio Colombo, of a recent declaration on European union, listened attentively as the scheme was outlined in the Council.

As if to bridge the gap between what is and what should be, political leaders resort to astonishing flights of fancy.

No such pressure exists when it comes to the relations between the British prime minister and the French president or the German chancellor.

The danger is that such initiatives will destroy the Community's fundamental unity. The European Council must therefore establish rules and procedures to govern the conditions in which some countries can go ahead on their own.

Within the core there should be two priorities - reform of the common agricultural policy to cut surpluses and curb costs, and the removal of the remaining barriers to trade in goods and services.

The difference between the EEC and the United States is that in the Community the participants are sovereign states, not appendages of the same nation.

The words "European union" cause even more difficulty than the word "Community" in terms of the gap between rhetoric and reality.

Their rivalries - and those of their entourage - will make it difficult for the heads of government to do so. On one occasion, which gives the flavour of how these meetings can go, the unattractive briefing from the British camp likened Mrs Thatcher's stand to the British squares at Waterloo.

But there are very few words that have a simple, unambiguous meaning. Even a simple sentence such as "Watch that dog run down the street" has mathematically more than two million possible meanings.

The Community's achievement is to have created a group of countries which share the exercise of their own individual sovereignties in order to establish some areas of law that are binding on all their citizens.

There's a lot of rubbish around Westminster and Fleet Street these days. Well, don't agree quite so enthusiastically. I am talking about the use of "to rubbish" as a transitive verb.

Even dim Pommies can catch the drift. To rubbish means to reject, brush off, treat as valueless, give the old heave-ho to, pour scorn on; or as the more formal lexicographers put it, to disparage, to criticize severely.

and poets have found a voice of their own, and use the English language quite well as their British counterparts. Oz has enriched us with much vivid slang from chunder to the golden doughnut.

The answer is interesting. Most of our slang and new idiom originates in the United States, because there are more people speaking English over there and because, in many fields of science, innovation and fashion, they are the leaders.

language, who first met the word in New Zealand in 1962. A Kiwi student of mine had spent a year or two in Australia said during a seminar that somebody had rubbished an argument put forward by George Orwell.

What, if anything, ought we to do about it? Not a lot, I think. It would be narrow-minded and silly to object to it just because it is an Australianism.

But there are very few words that have a simple, unambiguous meaning. Even a simple sentence such as "Watch that dog run down the street" has mathematically more than two million possible meanings.

I have a friend, a professor of politics and therefore a student of

language, who first met the word in New Zealand in 1962. A Kiwi student of mine had spent a year or two in Australia said during a seminar that somebody had rubbished an argument put forward by George Orwell.

What, if anything, ought we to do about it? Not a lot, I think. It would be narrow-minded and silly to object to it just because it is an Australianism.

and poets have found a voice of their own, and use the English language quite well as their British counterparts. Oz has enriched us with much vivid slang from chunder to the golden doughnut.

How politicians aid and abet

Last week Labour announced a package of measures intended to reclaim the issues of law and order from the Conservatives. Labour increasingly understands both the electoral value of the issue and the fact that many victims of crime are among the poor.

agreed to be wrong by Christians, Jews, Muslims and rationalists in this pluralistic society. It is on the continuation of that perception that social order depends.

One of Labour's problems is that, in the words of Tony Judge, a GLC councillor and editor of the Police Federation magazine, Police, "the police have become the whipping boy of the Labour Party".

The fundamental question to pose to all the political parties is this: have their policies supported or eroded the formation and continuation of the moral habits essential to society's order?

As if to illustrate and perpetuate the problem, another speaker at the Fabian Society conference at which Judge spoke insisted on the importance of making the police more answerable to local council politicians.

It is crucial that vice is seen to get its deserts whether or not such deserts "work" in the immediate reform of criminals.

For existing policies, such as the Common Market and the common agricultural policy, the government leaders should jointly draw up a rolling action programme with agreed targets that can be regularly reviewed and updated.

Support for orderly habits also requires that the social institutions which inculcate them, notably the family and education, are not weakened.

Majority voting is impossible for the simple reason that in a community of sovereign states the majority cannot in practice impose its will on the minority.

If Labour's Marxist and feminist extremists are downright hostile to the family, Mrs Thatcher's government has more quietly damaged it.

There is a short-term tactical sense to this, although to what extent it affects the form rather than the content of crime we do not know.

The man in the street may not have a sophisticated view of crime but it is a fundamentally moral view.

A precedent already exists with the European Monetary System and the revival, outside the Community, of the Western European Union.

There is a point at which rising crime figures indicate, not just the existence of more law-breakers but the erosion of the law-abiding habits of the majority.

With 12 members today, the Community's objectives must at any time be limited and specific, especially if their scope is ambitious.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Stay alive with Confusathug

I knew a girl once who was returning on the New York subway late at night from a choir rehearsal uptown.

is not deterred by your bareness, he will feel distinguished and easy about bending down and going through pockets lying on the floor.

1. Pull out a loaded toy pistol and shoot yourself in the head.

2. Start dancing. Tap-dancing is good. Ballerina is better. Talking your assailant in your arms and waiting is even better.

person  
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1 abet



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

# TUNNEL GREEN LIGHT

The historic day when President Mitterrand and Mrs Thatcher agreed on the fixed link between Britain and France proved an anticlimax for the British. The choice of the technically and financially safe rail-only tunnel is bound to be seen as another defeat for Mrs Thatcher at the hands of the unbending French. The British government had always kept its options open, but had clearly wished to offer the public the chance for motorists to drive straight across the Channel with the maximum pleasure and the minimum vulnerability to industrial or political action.

In the end, Mrs Thatcher was given little in the way of a face-saver. The possibility of a parallel road link will be considered only in the year 2,000. That is understandable since the economics of the chosen Anglo-French scheme depend on a shuttle service for road vehicles as much as on pure rail traffic. It leaves the road option as no more than an overflow, should the capacity of the rail tunnel prove inadequate to the traffic.

The chosen scheme bears a resemblance, even if largely superficial, to the scheme abandoned a decade ago. It lacks the grand sweep and exciting technical innovation of some of the projects proffered, most notably EuroRoute, which made use of the civil engineering concepts pioneered and later perfected in the exploitation of North Sea oil. In terms of grand gesture, for instance, the Channel Tunnel lacks the scope (and indeed the expense) of the £5.5 billion scheme approved six months ago to throw a bridge and tunnel roadway across Tokyo Bay, involving a 180 acre man-made island, pleasure parks, an advanced, new communications network and the creation of high-technology zones.

Any sense of bathos thus inspired should, however, be short-lived. It can be put to one side and forgotten. The choice, and indeed the collaborative process of choice - was bound to be a dual one between Britain and France. The symbolism of our greater physical involvement with our partners in the European Community was, after all, a mainspring of the Government's political commitment to a fixed link. France has less need of it than Britain, whatever President Mitterrand's party problems in North-East France in the coming election.

It was therefore logical for French support to be put behind the safest option least likely to disrupt existing local business, and to exploit the great investment that country has made in advanced railways. And that conviction supports the British Government's insistence that the privately funded project should make no direct call on public funds.

The project that has emerged has every chance of engineering and financial success, since it uses known techniques. The public can start with some confidence that it will not end up as a glorious failure such as Concorde. It is a workmanlike enterprise that is likely to make a considerable impact on trade and travellers from 1993 onwards and fulfil the vision of joining Britain to the continent as effectively, and with as strong an impact on trade, as any of the more adventurous ideas.

The inhabitants of Kent, for instance, will want to know what kind of planning response is to be made to the inevitable pressure to build everything - from housing and warehousing to factories - as near as possible to this exciting new transport corridor. That is not simply a question of controlling the blight to the garden of England. In parts of the county, dockyards, railway works and coalmines have declined and new jobs are needed.

The implications for British Rail also need new thought. France will build high-speed track to Calais to speed the new jointly planned trains from London to Paris and Brussels. British Rail while welcoming the boost to both passenger and freight traffic that the link should bring, is not counting on these facilities being reproduced in South-East England. Some government supporters might hope that the French, so keen to speed their trains to Waterloo Station, would take British Rail off their hands. In the absence of such magnanimity, Government policy towards rail must be rethought to exploit the opportunities that will come, whether in the public or private sector.

Business and industry too, will need to do plenty of pre-planning. Big cuts in journey times and costs will genuinely make the continent nearer, for business of all kinds (including potential new forms of bulk exports) as well as for the travelling holidaymaker.

Most of all, suppliers as well as consortium members will need to use their best efforts if the tunnel is to beat the old jinx of mainland projects and be built on time and to cost. That would be as great a symbol of changing attitudes as the commitment to the project itself.

# A TIGHT SCHEDULE FOR MR PERES

Israel's prime minister Shimon Peres arrives in Britain tonight, supposedly a disappointed yet hopeful man. The disappointment springs from the way in which the Middle East peace process has run into the sand; his hope from the belief that it may not yet be too late to re-direct its course. Can Britain help him do so?

Ostensibly that is the purpose of his talks which start in Downing Street tomorrow, the first to be held there by an Israeli prime minister for seven years. How big a role Mr Peres really wants Britain to play in the peace process however must remain a matter for speculation.

On the one hand he seems to need all the help he can get. Israel has shown greater flexibility under his leadership, agreeing in principle to talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation which could even include members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) - as long as they had no links with terrorism. But in the autumn he makes way, under the terms of the coalition government, for the more intransigent Yitzhak Shamir - who could very well bring progress to a halt again. With the Arab fast of Ramadan beginning in May, Mr Peres has to move quickly.

Anglo-Israeli relations have improved since the invasion of Lebanon three years ago, when they sank to a subsistence level. Most recently the Foreign Office redeemed Britain's reputation in Israeli eyes by cancelling the controversial meeting with two Palestinians in London last October when the latter refused to subscribe to a statement on Israel's right to exist.

The person who has most recently disappointed Jerusalem is King Hussein of Jordan, who has failed to move as far or as fast as Israelis would like towards the setting up of direct peace talks. It is said that the main reason Mr Peres is hoping for so much from his London visit lies in Britain's continuing influence in the Arab world and its particularly close links with Jordan. So anxious is Mr Peres to enlist Mrs Thatcher's help in harrising Hussein that he may not even raise the three long-standing Israeli grievances against this country - Britain's refusal to sell North Sea oil, its continuing arms embargo and its adherence to the Arab trade boycott. Israeli ministers usually raise them as soon as possible after shaking hands - but not this time, it is expected.

On the other hand, it must be questioned whether the Israelis are really hoping for as much from Mrs Thatcher as they aver. Britain has long been suspected by Jerusalem of being too "soft" on the PLO. And while Israelis were relieved by the cancellation of last October's meeting in London, they had been less than pleased with Britain for setting it up in the first place. In Israel's eyes it might be better for Britain to restrict its Middle East role to one in support of the United States - a more powerful, and trustworthy ally.

According to this argument Mr Peres is looking for the kind of prestige visit which will underpin his political future at home as much as his policies abroad. It will balance Mrs Thatcher's to Egypt and Jordan last September, and easily out-

weigh the working trip paid by Mr Shamir to Britain, three months earlier when he was given a straight talking to at Number Ten. Although the chances of a snap election before the autumn are diminishing as the weeks go by, the possibility remains should the right cause come by.

Mr Peres has had a largely successful career as prime minister. He has withdrawn most Israeli troops from Lebanon, reduced inflation and recently come close to a new bilateral treaty with Egypt. If he called an election now, without due cause, the electorate might regard him as a political opportunist and vote against him anyway - forgetting his achievements. But if he advanced so far in the peace process that the coalition broke up in disarray, Mr Peres might be in a strong position to win the ensuing poll. His visit to Britain should at least put a gloss on his image - and if he could persuade Mrs Thatcher to pay a return call on Jerusalem later on, so much the better. He must already be pleased by the generous press reception which has preceded his arrival today.

Britain should be prepared to help him, to the limited extent that it can, that is to say without trying to interfere in Israel's domestic politics. Procedural difficulties over a framework for talks and the issue of Palestinian representation stand in the way of the peace process. These are not insurmountable. But they require a flexibility by Israel, that is more likely to come from a Peres government than one led by the man who is due to succeed him.

# Private schools trend

From the Headmaster of Colfe's School  
Sir, Like David Hart (January 14) I do not apportion blame (or credit) for the increase in demand for places at independent schools and I share in his appeal to the Government to make more funds available for education in general and teachers' pay in particular.

However I should need to hear more persuasive arguments before accepting that the maintained sector of education is suffering quite considerably in comparison with the independent sector in expenditure on education. It is important to compare like with like: the cost of educating a pupil in this independent inner London day school (until 1976 an ILEA grammar school) is £1,974.

Virtually all the income of the school comes from fees. Tables published in your columns have shown the cost of educating secondary pupils in ILEA schools as being higher than this. Several other independent boys' schools in our area have similar fees to give and in the girls' school (especially Girls Public Day Schools Trust) the fees are even lower.

# Guns at Heathrow

From Deputy Assistant Commissioner R. B. Wells  
Sir, Philip Charles and Martyn John (January 15) express concern at the armed officers at Heathrow. I share their concern and regret the necessity.

Mr Charles rightly implies that a more powerful weapon carries more danger, but we cannot risk - or encourage - a Rome or Vienna massacre by burying our heads. The weapons chosen and the men who will use them are first-class. Our aim is to minimise the risk to innocent bystanders caught up in any terrorist attack by significantly reducing a terrorist's capacity to inflict injury and death.

Mr John argues his case, with which we do not agree, from three instances widely separated by time and place. All such incidents are given a dramatically high profile and must be weighed against the less advertised but growing use of firearms by criminals, as well as our own reluctant, but increasing, response. Yours faithfully, RICHARD WELLS, Director of Public Affairs, New Scotland Yard, Broadway, SW1.

# Unfair dismissals

From Mr John Connell  
Sir, I had some hope or perhaps, in retrospect, a naive belief that the concept of unfair dismissal appearing for the first time in the Industrial Relations Act of 1971 would go some way to enhance the status and dignity of the employee. I thought that this provision in the statute was intended to provide something approaching a substantial right with respect to one's job.

However that was not to be. Our so-called labour courts have made certain the law was interpreted and applied in a manner that ensured the minimum of interference with the employers' freedom to hire and fire at will. In recent years the Government has taken steps to further protect

# Damaging effects of science 'brain drain'

From Professor J. H. Subak-Sharpe and Dr H. S. Marsden

Sir, On January 13 you published a half-page advertisement expressing concern for the state of British science, headed "Save British Science". Although we were not members of the group of scientists who placed that advertisement, we wish to make public our total support for the views expressed there and to illustrate from our personal experience the very real basis for concern.

This institute studies viruses which infect humans and is involved in basic research at the interface between science and medicine. It enjoys a high international reputation in a rapidly expanding field and its graduating PhDs are much sought by both academia and industry. Analysis of the whereabouts of our recent doctoral graduates discloses an alarming recent "brain drain". Between 1971 and 1981 of 34 British individuals who obtained their PhDs here, more than half have spent an immediate post-doctoral period working abroad. Of those presently working as scientists, 29 are in Britain, one is in the USA and two are in Europe. Of our 15 British PhD graduates since 1981, only three are working in science within the UK, 10 are in the USA and one is in France. Six out of seven students who have graduated PhD here have returned to their home countries.

We meet some of our PhD graduates and those of our other British universities at scientific meetings in the USA. What particularly concerns us is that not only do the majority now wish to remain and work there, but they profess a

# Call for a wildlife 'living classroom'

From Mr Roger Wheeler

Sir, Unless current world trends are reversed, two out of every five species of fish, birds and reptiles will become extinct in 20 years. Crises of this nature are visible all across the world and British zoos are now joining forces with their overseas counterparts in an international effort to save endangered species. These species include Przewalski's Horse, the European Bison, Père David's Deer, the Arabian Oryx, the Golden Lion Tamarin, the Hawaiian Goose and the Round Island Gecko. All are now extinct or on the very edge of extinction in the wild, saved by zoos and bred in sufficient numbers to return them to the wild state. Indeed five pairs of 1985-born Scimitar-horned Oryx have recently been reintroduced into the Bou Hedma National Park in Tunisia by Marwell Zoological Park, Whipsnade Park and Edinburgh Zoo.

However, there is more to conservation than such projects - however valuable. A learning process is involved. Zoos have realised that they need to help people "discover" the truth about the destruction of both wildlife and its vital natural habitats and to start the slow climb back to a more careful, caring society. Zoos should be viewed as being a "living classroom" as only by coming into close proximity with some of these strange but delightful creatures can we draw attention to their plight and really begin to appreciate the irreversible loss and future potential losses across the board - from hutterlies to the big cats.

Of course, human interference in the natural habitat of many of these species is often the major cause of their potential extinction. Hence, before reintroduction schemes can be carried out essential ground-work must be completed. Before the recent reintroduction of the Scimitar-horned Oryx to Tunisia, eight years of preparation work took place to "reclaim" 2,400 hectares suitable for the herd and other compatible animals. It is important that this aspect should be taken into account before proper conservation reintroduction schemes can take place.

In the meantime, zoos act as land-based arks where species can be preserved and strengthened by careful captive breeding programmes until the time when secure natural habitats can be found. Further action is needed now, on a worldwide scale, both to conservation and education.

Yours faithfully, ROGER WHEELER, Vice-chairman, The National Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland, Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, NW1, January 17.

# The green debate

From Mr Hugh Gardner

Sir, Your leader (January 8) welcoming Mr Waldegrave's activism in rural affairs overlooks what is, to me, the obvious solution to current conflicts. When the Ministry of Agriculture was set up in 1919, and when I joined it in 1933, the great majority of dwellers in rural areas were farmers and farm workers. A Minister of Agriculture with Cabinet rank was obviously justified. The justification was doubtful when I retired in 1970, and is even more doubtful today, however much farmers may wish to have a "producer's representative" at the court of central government.

You refer to the "disparity within the town and country planning laws" between farming and other interests. But there is a basic difference. The person who is denied permission for non-farming development in a rural area, on land he owns or seeks to acquire, can carry out the development elsewhere. This option is not open to the farmer. And farmers, as a body, would hardly take kindly to decisions that may affect their livelihoods taken by non-agricultural bodies and officials.

There can only be confusion, administratively, between the Ministry of Agriculture's interest in conservation, which you describe as "unchallengeable", and Mr Waldegrave's "aggrandizing bid" for his department.

Surely the doctrine of "creative tension" received its death blow from the collapse of the Ministry of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Economic Affairs, set up on this principle in 1964!

Should not the change in the structure of the countryside and the nature of its problems since the Ministry of Agriculture was set up in 1919 be reflected in the creation of a Department of Rural Affairs, taking over the present functions of the ministry, Mr Waldegrave's functions at the Department of the Environment and, perhaps, certain specifically rural functions of other departments? Such departments exist in other countries. And the possibility was considered, but rejected, by the Haldane committee to the different circumstances of 1919. Yours faithfully, HUGH GARDNER, United Oxford & Cambridge University Club, 71 Pall Mall, SW1.

# Westland's future

From Mr Charles P. Reed

Sir, Those politicians demanding inquiries into the Westland affair might be heard with more respect if they refrain from prejudging the findings of such inquiries. The following judicial observation is surely as appropriate to politics as it is to the law: As everybody who has anything to do with the law knows, the path of the law is strewn with examples of open and shut cases which, somehow, were not of unanswerable charges which, in the event, were completely answered; of inexplicable conduct which was fully explained.

per Megarry, J in John v. Rees (1969) 2 All ER 274 at p.309. Yours sincerely, CHARLES P. REED, 5 Lightham House, Beckerside Close, Beckenham, Kent.

# Art and design apart

From the Curator of the Royal Academy Schools

Sir, While welcoming the reassurance given by the Chairman of the Board of the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education (January 15) that NAB's planning for 1987/88 must take into account the extent of any resultant damage through reduction, I greatly regret that his letter does nothing to allay my concern, strongly reinforced by your subsequent correspondence, about the damage to be expected from separating art and design. Having served on his Art and Design Working Group since it was formed in 1982, I can assure you that I always expected, and certainly grew accustomed to, but most emphatically did not resign over, the "difficult circumstances" which he describes. I resigned, Sir, because of his board's decision on separation, which I believed to be wrong, because that decision was taken in spite of the view of the Art and Design Working Group; because that view was supported by the opinion of specialist bodies, sought by NAB and received by the group; and, finally, because I felt I had to do what I could - which I could not do as a member of the group - to bring the board's attention to the strength of feeling on this issue.

In view of the most difficult matters which NAB will now be contending with, it is to be very much hoped that the decision on separation may yet be reconsidered, so as to ensure, in Mr Ball's own words, that "the reduction in provision is brought about with minimum damage." Yours faithfully, IAN TREGARTHEN JENKIN, Curator, Royal Academy Schools, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1, January 17.

# Smoking in Norway

From M.A. D. C. Turner

Sir, Scottish MP, Mr George Foulkes has been widely reported as wishing to introduce a Bill to outlaw smoking in almost every conceivable public place. His proposals have become ever more bizarre and extreme and the latest addition he recommends (report, January 7) is that smoking should be banned in private motor vehicles, as is the case, so he says, in Norway. In fact there is no law at all in Norway to prevent either drivers or passengers smoking in private cars and Mr Foulkes would be well advised to check more carefully before making misleading statements designed to assist his unnecessary legislative notions. Yours faithfully, A. D. C. TURNER, Tobacco Advisory Council, Glen House, SW1, January 7.

# IT IS RIGHT TO CANCEL

From Mr J. B. Sloan

The fact that the Government appear to have been a trifle precipitate, even opportunist, in the manner in which the Channel tunnel has been abandoned does not alter the rightness of the decision to abandon. Formal notice by the tunnel companies on January 2 that failure by the British Government to ratify the Anglo-French Treaty was deemed by them to constitute abandonment was intended as no more than a protective measure pending negotiation of new terms. That the Government have chosen not to negotiate new terms, but rather to regard technical as actual abandonment, suggests, as indeed was becoming increasingly evident before Christmas, that they had already privately pigeon-holed the tunnel alongside Magsin as one of those large prestige projects the country either does not want or cannot afford.

They have thus brought to an abrupt end a poker game that was expected to go on for some time, at least until the Cairncross Committee completed its independent assessment in the spring, but whose outcome has not been much in doubt. All parties appear to have acted within their rights, and both the French Government and the tunnel companies seem to have been rather aggrieved. As for Parliament and public, they have learned to be wary of long-drawn out games of this kind, which so often lead to a costly commitment for the taxpayer because it is difficult to turn back the clock. The tunnel, whose promoters have played a skilful hand this past 15 years, there was a clear danger of such an outcome; indeed the French have openly anticipated it quite recently. So for some time an early decision rather than a late one is welcome, provided it is right.

Presumably the Cairncross report, if and when it is published, will spell out the detail in an impartial way that has not unfortunately been done before. But the fact that the Government are engaged in the project, the benefits of this project to Britain in political, economic, and geographical terms have never been satisfactorily established; and even those elements of the case which have been made to the satisfaction of its promoters have been greatly weakened by the changing energy situation and the state of the world and British economy in the past year. There was perhaps a political case for it in the early sixties as a not too costly earnest of Britain's honest intention towards Europe; there was perhaps a case for it in the early sixties when in days of affluence car traffic across the Channel was growing even faster than early studies had predicted. But with the cost of the project now estimated at around £2,000 million and traffic static or falling, it is flagging out; moving 25 ships from the UK registry and making 1,690 seafarers redundant.

This move, which involves third-party "agency manning", will, it is claimed, save our company £10 - £12 million a year and has been done with no apparent consultation with anyone except three foreign companies, one each in Switzerland, Hong Kong and Bermuda. Do you suppose that the BP management will have the gall to continue to prefix our ships names with the title British? As a shareholder, can I suggest FOC (Flag of convenience) substitutes; the first to be renamed could be British Success. Yours faithfully, ANDREW BELL, Garul, Fonthelven, Helston, Cornwall, January 15.

# BP shipping

From Mr A. M. B. Bell

Sir, BP's shipping division has announced (report, January 9) that it is flagging out, moving 25 ships from the UK registry and making 1,690 seafarers redundant. This move, which involves third-party "agency manning", will, it is claimed, save our company £10 - £12 million a year and has been done with no apparent consultation with anyone except three foreign companies, one each in Switzerland, Hong Kong and Bermuda. Do you suppose that the BP management will have the gall to continue to prefix our ships names with the title British? As a shareholder, can I suggest FOC (Flag of convenience) substitutes; the first to be renamed could be British Success. Yours faithfully, ANDREW BELL, Garul, Fonthelven, Helston, Cornwall, January 15.

# In the bag

From Mr M. E. Ewart-James

Sir, I understand that the Lord Chancellor has indicated that the Woolpack is becoming progressively more uncomfortable and needs renewal. The House of Lords is reported to be undecided between wool and horsehair as stuffing. May I suggest the use of Falkland Islands wool. This would have the advantage of appealing to popular sentimentality, reminding us all of the government's power at the time of the stuffing and serving in future to remind them who sit on it, as it in turn becomes felted and uncomfortable, of the consequences of short-sighted Government policies. Yours faithfully, M. E. EWART-JAMES, Hillcrest, Box Hill, Cotswolds, Wiltshire, January 17.

# THE TIMES ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 21 1976

On January 30 the Government obtained a majority of 76 in the Commons on a vote to cancel the Channel Tunnel project - a decision which earned the approval of 'The Times'. Eleven years later the paper takes a different view of the link with France. Thomas Barnes, its great editor from 1817 to 1841, would have commended such a reversal in policy. He believed that the important question was not what we said then, but whether what we say now is true and just, and to the purpose now.

# STAYING POWER

From Mr J. B. Sloan

Sir, I still use daily a pair of hair brushes bought in 1944 from the Naafi shop in Kasr-el-Nil barracks, Cairo, which are much closer to their then state than the head they tend now. Yours etc, J. B. SLOAN, Wynford, Hudnall Lanc, Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire.

# Far festive fare

From the Rev T. R. Haggis

Sir May I reassure Mr A. M. T. Sanders' brother (January 14) that he is not alone in having had difficulty in getting a haggis into the United States. On a visit a few years ago I was delayed some considerable time at New York's JFK airport while a suspicious immigration official checked on the validity of my visa. At least I wasn't mistaken for a salami. I remain, Sir, Yours faithfully, TIM HAGGIS, 10 College Road, Chilwell, Nottingham.





WALL STREET table with columns for date (Jan 17, 18, 19, 20, 21) and various stock indices like NYSE, NASDAQ, and S&P 500.

Dow down at opening

Stock market was sharply lower in morning trading in an acceleration of Friday's downward trend. Traders yesterday said investors were disappointed that the weekend meeting of the Group of Five nations did not make any clear plan to lower interest rates.

While the tin market held its bid yesterday, copper and aluminium surged ahead on the London Metal Exchange, helped by sterling's weakness.

Other base metals, however, were stagnant. Coffee was again the star among the softs, rising strongly as the board of the International Coffee Organization began to grapple with the question of suspending quotas.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including SOYABEAN, SILVER LARGE, SILVER SMALL, and various oil and metal prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies like the Pound, Dollar, and others.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table showing sterling spot and forward rates for different maturities and locations.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for various contracts like 3-month sterling, 3-month Eurodollar, etc.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Period rates closed overnight at the top levels of the day yesterday, discounting an early rise in base rates. From two months to 12 months, they were up to half a point above Friday's close.

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS

Table of Euro-currency deposit rates for various banks and maturities.

GOLD

Table of gold prices and related market information.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trust prices and performance metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trust prices and performance metrics.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Large table providing detailed information on various unit trusts, including names, managers, and performance data.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or additional publication information.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Interest rate worries send shares and gilts tumbling

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Fears that interest rates could be raised this week to protect sterling sent shares sliding yesterday. After a drab day, the FT 30-share index finished 12.6 points down at 1,106.1 points.

Government stocks were also mauled. At the longer end of the market, prices collapsed by as much as £2. Shorts were down by up to £1.

Market sentiment was damaged by the inconclusive meeting of Group of Five ministers in London. The weakening oil price helped fuel the depression.

The market is looking forward to interim figures from John Beales, the textiles to refrigeration equipment business. The results, due on Thursday, are expected to show a jump in pretax profits from £230,000 in the first half of 1984 to £325,000 in the same period last year.

With sterling lower there were growing fears that base rate would have to be lifted again, possibly by a full percentage point.

But, in spite of the widespread gloom, takeover situations - real and rumored - continued to dominate the market.

The Guinness intervention in the battle for Distillers left DCL shares down 3p at 563p after touching 590p. Guinness finished at 293p, down 10p, and initial bidder Argyll Group closed at 355p, down 16p.

The Monopolies Commission reference for the General Electric Co bid for Plessey left both shares 2p lower at 166p.

Imperial Chemical Industries shaded 1p at 746p on suggestions that it is about to launch a £50 million offer for the chemical division of Uniroyal, the US tyre group. Other international groups including the West German BASF group, are said to be interested.

Just over a year ago ICI purchased Bestwick Chemicals for about £550 million. Share prices on the stores picked up, but continued to drift downwards, hurt by the lack of good news on interest rates. Further hardening of lending rates is likely to take the steam out of consumer spending.

Harris Queensway lost 6p to 204p, having been hurt at the end of last week by reduced profit forecasts from analysts. There were losses of between 3p and 17p for leading names such as Boots, British Home Stores, Barton Group, Great Universal Stores and Woolworth.

Seas Holdings also drifted 3p lower to 107p, although there were reports that the shoes and department stores group is the target of Dee Corporation. The latter is believed to be ready to make a big acquisition and its shares fell 3p to 230p.

Banking was another sector which appeared to be affected by the interest rate worries. W Greenwell, the broker, was thought to have been a strong buyer of bank shares last week, but nothing could prevent several pence being knocked off prices of the leading four clearers in yesterday's dull market.

News on the Channel link affected certain prices. Costain Group, George Wimpey and Taylor Woodrow are all involved in the winning consortium, and their share prices all rose. Costain was up 6p at 478p, Wimpey up 2p at 146p and TW up 7p at 488p. Trafalgar House, which was involved in the losing EuroRoute plans, dropped 20p to 320p.

Williams Holdings, the acquisition engineering group, managed a movement against Stand by for the long expected revamp at Barbian Holdings, once a power in the security business. Yesterday the Stock Exchange announced that the share quotation, suspended at 3/4p in November, had been cancelled. Such a move allows dealings to take place under the special dealing rate 535 facility. Barbian has already announced two takeovers.

the market trend, its shares rising 5p to 408p. The market expected another significant deal to be announced soon.

Bid rumours were back for Yorkshire Chemicals, its share price being chased 6p higher to 73p. Buyers were also back for Armstrong Equipment, the

motor components group. Armstrong reports results in March and the City expects good news. The shares rose 3/4p to 804p, and they have now regained much of their fall this month.

Shares in Westland, the beleaguered helicopter maker, slipped 5p to 93p. After the blocking of the Sikorsky rescue plan, shareholders must now wait for further developments. Hopes are that Sikorsky will make a full takeover offer.

Interim results from David S. Smith, the packaging company, brought cheer to the share price, raising it 5p to 152p. Profits came back to a healthy £2.5 million, against £226,000 last time, and the half year dividend is increased from 1p to 1.4p. Western Board Mills, which Smith bought at the end of 1984, continues to enhance profit figures.

Vaux Breweries, on suggestions of a bid for the Kennedy Brooks catering group, slipped 2p to 376p. Mr Paul Nicholson, chairman, denied any intention to bid. Kennedy Brooks, which was also unwilling to contemplate such a link, closed with a 6p rise to 236p after touching 246p.

Wold, the vegetable group which was hit on Friday after another profits warning, recovered 7p to 60p. First Leisure Corporation, with figures today edged ahead 5p to 428p and

textile group David Dixon Group continued to reflect A. & J. Geller bid hopes with a 10p rise to 295p. The latest acquisition put 6p on the shares of Mann & Co, the estate agent, at 212p.

Aaronite, makers of fire fighting equipment, continued to benefit from last week's takeover talks announcement, improving a further 5p to 68p.

The Hanson Trust-Imperial Group-United Biscuits triangle looks set to be rearranged. Lord Hanson yesterday hinted that he is prepared to increase his offer for Imperial to persuade the board to give up the fight.

But Imperial, which has an agreed merger with the table with United Biscuits, may yet be put out of Hanson's reach. According to reports in the City, Morgan Grenfell, merchant bank to UB, has looked very

James Ferguson Holdings, the lastwear to property group, returned to the market at 15p yesterday, against a 10p reintroduction price. The company has been revamped by Mr David Mitchell, aged 60, a Swiss-based financier, and Mr Gary Cramer, aged 24. It has expanded into leisure and financial services.

Imperial shares are priced at 249p, down 6p, some 15p above the value of the Hanson shares and cash offer. Hanson was priced at 139p, down 5p on the day, and UB slipped 3p to 235p - being roughly 70p below the value of the terms from Imperial.

Some analysts already regard the proposed Imperial/UB set-up as a reverse takeover by UB, so a revision of the merger terms to put UB in the driving seat is unlikely to ruffle the City. But the two companies have another burden to deal with if they wish to keep Hanson out.

The Office of Fair Trading has yet to decide whether to refer the Imperial/UB deal to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. However, City opinion is the two groups, which together would be worth around £1.3 billion and have a big chunk of the British snack foods market, have argued their case forcibly with the OFT and will avoid the Monopolies Commission.

Argos to open 20 stores

By Derek Harris Industrial Editor

Argos, the catalogue showroom chain subsidiary of BAT Industries, plans to spend about £12 million this year on development and expansion including 20 new stores.

The investment with another £16 million for promotion, was announced yesterday after Argos showed a big jump in sales last year to £338 million, up 25 per cent on the previous year. This is expected to lift Argos profits by at least 40 per cent, according to Dr Mike Smith, the chief executive.

Since BAT took over Argos in 1979, the chain of showrooms where customers buy from catalogues has nearly doubled to 166 and annual turnover quadrupled. Profits in the year to last December were £22 million.

A key factor in recent sales growth has been the development of in-store jewellery boutiques under the Elizabeth Duke banner. These have been opened in all but 16 of the showrooms.

More than a tenth of the latest Argos catalogue is devoted to the jewellery.

The first of the new stores opens this month at Kelghley, West Yorkshire, followed by one at Great Yarmouth. Site negotiations have been concluded at Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre in London and at Folkestone, Kingston, Lancaster, Redhill and Romford.

Some £4.5 million will be spent this year on extending a distribution centre at Castleford, West Yorkshire.

Big demand for Macro shares

By Clare Dobie

The offer for sale of shares in Macro 4, a computer software company, was oversubscribed 21 times. Applications from employees have been met in full but other applications are being scaled down heavily.

It is widely expected that, when dealings begin on Friday, the shares will go to a substantial premium to the 105p offer price. Only 25 per cent of the equity was on offer.

The success of the issue is likely to encourage other software companies to join the stock market.

For applications for 250 to 2,000 shares there will be a weighted ballot for 200 shares; 2,500 to 9,000 shares, a ballot for 300; and 10,000 to 15,000 shares, a ballot for 500. Larger applications will receive only 5 per cent of the amount sought.

TEMPUS

A bigger drinks cabinet for facing the world

Ernest Saunders will have to get a bigger drinks cabinet for his Guinness chief executive's suite to accommodate the bigger range of products which will come under his control if the agreed £2.2 billion merger with Distillers goes through. The expanding drinks cabinet, which displays the company's brands, reflects the rebirth of a business which now is poised to become a main player in the international drinks market.

Four years ago, before Mr Saunders' arrival at Guinness House, which shed 30p to 320 on the news that it had "lost".

Even that fall was little more than the balancing of the late gains on Friday, and some investors viewed the Government's decision as a bull point for Trafalgar on the grounds that it was well out of what may still prove to be high risk contracts.

There is still time for Trafalgar to recover some of this lost sentiment when the allocation of the work connected with the Channel Tunnel is made known. It is that allocation which will be crucial in assessing the impact on the companies in the winning consortium.

Tarmac is the most obvious beneficiary as a building materials supplier. Not only will the benefits of increased business flow through swiftly, but the operational gearing means that extra volume will have a substantial impact on profits.

By the same token, companies like RMC and Amey Roadstone, part of Consolidated Gold Fields will also benefit even though they are not directly linked to the Channel Tunnel Group.

The picture is much less clear for the construction companies, where profits will not begin to appear at least until the early 1990s. The beneficiaries for Balfour Beatty, Costain, Taylor Woodrow and Wimpey, the consortium members, for the time being is one mainly of improved stock market sentiment based on the knowledge that order books can be sustained and overhead structures kept intact.

For the sectors as a whole, then, the news has to be seen more as a shot in the arm than one in the foot. It will help sentiment, certainly, but the soundly based investment

exercise to announce the winner proved to be something of a let-down for the City. The Oscar might have been awarded, but what did that mean for the box office?

At this stage no one is too sure how the Channel Tunnel cake will be divided. Although no one would dispute that the project will be good for the building and construction industry it is ironic that the biggest movement in the share prices of the competing companies was that of Trafalgar House, which shed 30p to 320 on the news that it had "lost".

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Bowater Industries

At first sight Bowater Industries seems to have undergone a conversion on the road to Damascus. Only 18 months ago it was busy selling its American interests by arranging a complicated demerger and share issue on both sides of the Atlantic. Now it is buying its way back into the United States.

But Bowater has not changed its mind about America. It has simply withdrawn from the US pulp and paper industry with its limited growth prospects, and is building up a more specialized packaging operation to replace it.

Yesterday it announced the purchase of StarTex, which makes single and multi-layer plastic film for packaging in the food and other industries, at \$18 million (£12.7 million) the purchase is fairly small but with it the company has clearly signposted the way to further growth in America.

It has clearly not been put off by problems at Camvac, the US metallized film company, where Bowater recently built a new plant. At StarTex, the family management will remain. Presumably, the exit multiples of 20 times historic earnings implies confidence about continued growth.

The market, however, thought this too much to pay, and marked the shares down 2p to 281p yesterday. But that help over cautious. Since the demerger, Bowater has spent more than £40 million on acquisitions, most in growing businesses. In addition, it has spent £50 million or so on existing operations.

Although the effect of this acquisition programme will not have come through in the 1985 figures, due in April, it will help profits this year. On this basis, profits could move up from, say, £40 million in 1985 to £56 million this year, suggesting an earnings multiple of just 10 times earnings.

Lord Hanson may be busy elsewhere, but he is unlikely to let his 10 per cent stake lie unnoticed for long. Given his presence on the shareholders' register, the share price in unlikely to continue its retreat.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns for company name, issue size, and price. Includes Abbot Medical, British Telecom, and others.

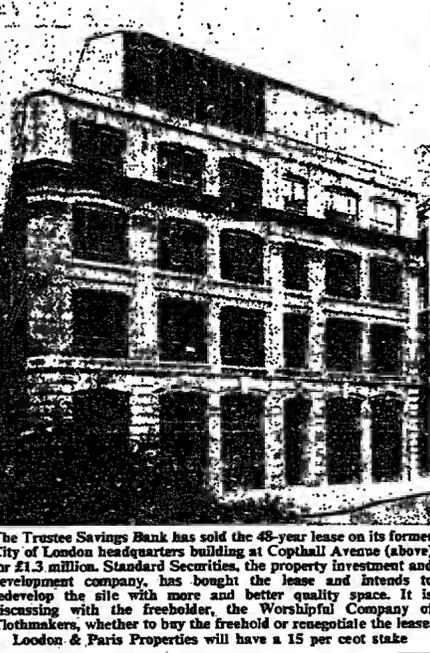
RECENT ISSUES

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APPOINTMENTS

CH Beazer Homes West: Mr Peter Fernandez becomes director for sales and marketing. Panad: Mr John Kay Green has rejoined as director of the corporate and finance division. Welding Rods: Mr P F Rogers has joined as a technical director. Frizzell Group: Mr K M Davidson has become a director. National Radiofone: Mr Ronald Hooker has become chairman of the board. MGM Assurance: Mr David W Hardy is made deputy chairman. Electrothermal Engineering: Mr Thomas W Bull and Mr Kenneth Morris have become directors. Windsor Television: Mr David Whitaker has been made managing director. British Bankers' Association: Mr D M Child has become chairman of the executive committee. Mr J E Craig has taken over from Mr Child as deputy chairman. Combined Lease Finance: Mr Glyn Jenkins has joined the board as finance director. Bradstock, Blunt (NI): Mr William E McCluskey if made a director. Burroughs Wellcome: Mr Ted Haigler has become president and chief executive officer and a member of the board of

The Wellcome Foundation: Mr A J Sheppard has been made chairman of BW and Dr R M Cresswell, group director, will join the BW board. Withers, Solicitors: Mr John Roome has become senior partner. Reeves Brown Associates: Mr Keith Jacks has been made a director. Phillips Petroleum Company Europe-Africa: Mr Robert Forsythe has been made director of public affairs. Guardian Management Services: Mr Michael de Queney has become director of Computer Consultancy Services. J Henry Schroder Wagg & Co: Mr Paolo Tarantelli has been made an assistant director. Ecolab: Mr J E Craig has been appointed to the board as managing director. Accident & General: Mr Michael Monk has been appointed to the board as financial director. AT & T and Phillips Telecommunications UK: Mr B. W. Manley has become chairman and chief executive officer. Phoenix Foods Manufacturers: Mr John White has joined the board. WCRS (Holdings): Mr Tim Breese is to be deputy managing director.



The Trustee Savings Bank has sold the 48-year lease on its former City of London headquarters building at Cophthall Avenue (above) for £1.3 million. Standard Securities, the property investment and development company, has bought the lease and intends to redevelop the site with more and better quality space. It is discussing with the freeholder, the Worshipful Company of Clothmakers, whether to buy the freehold or renegotiate the lease. London & Paris Properties will have a 15 per cent stake

COMPANY NEWS

EVODE GROUP: For the year to Sept. 28, with figures in £000, turnover was 2,832 (2,713), while the pretax profit was 2,817 (2,310). Earnings per share (basic) were 8.93p (13.25p). A final dividend of 2.28p (1.98p) is being paid, making 11.21p (15.23p). Evode is to buy Valentine, Mann and Brown from Fullwells Flexible Packaging for £1.2 million. COMBINED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION: United Kingdom Provident Institution has subscribed \$1million (£700,000) for 100,000 new shares in Plasman Data Systems, an offshoot of CTC. UKPI has owned Japan, a group company of Nemura Securities, one of the world's largest financial institutions and Kurray, a Japanese industrial company, as shareholders and investors in the Plasman optical disk subsidiary. ANTOFAGASTA HOLDINGS: A subsidiary, Chilean Northern Mines, is to acquire the Los Pelambres copper project and the Pantillillo gold mine props in central Chile from Atlantic Goldfield. The price will be \$6.2 million (£4.33 million) cash over two years. Up to a further \$6 million may become payable, under a profit-sharing agreement. FIRST CASTLE ELECTRONICS: The company is to purchase 125-year leasehold interests in three industrial units in the enterprise zone in Salford, Greater Manchester. The cost will be £510,000 cash, before taking into account the benefit of industrial building allowances, totalling £208,000. KLOECKNER-WERKE CRA of Australia is raising its stake to 49.9 per cent in German company Kloeckner said in a statement, without giving details. Kloeckner also plans to hive-off its steel activities.

COMPANY NEWS

SYSTEMS DESIGNERS: The development of a new headquarters building at Fleet Road, Fleet, Hampshire, has recently been finished and contracts have been exchanged for its sale and leaseback. The sale proceeds of £2.93 million are not expected to be materially in excess of the development costs. MANN AND CO: The company has entered into a roundtable agreement to acquire Abbot's (East Anglia), the successor to the firm of Abbot's, a chartered surveyor and estate agent, operating mainly in Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk. The price depends on Abbot's profits and its assets, but the base consideration will be 2.3 million new ordinary shares. APPLE TREE: This company and the Fenmore Co-operative are to form a joint marketing company for the handling of produce grown by Fenmore specifically for supermarket. Fenmore has about 60 growers, farming 40,000 acres. Its members produce 95,000 tons of potatoes, carrots, onions and parsnips a year. BROOKE TOOL ENGINEERING: For the year to Sept 30, with figures in £000, turnover was 1,018 (942), while the pretax profit was 1,056.5 (843). Earnings per share (basic) were 6.1p (5.4p). A final dividend of 0.75p (1p) is being paid on March 19, making a total of 1.25p (1p).

Gold may regain some of its shine

Last week's flurry of excitement in the gold market was most convenient. It had all the ingredients of a good story: a sudden surge in price, hectic trading, baffled dealers and a mystery buyer. It was also well-timed, at the end of a long, dull period in the market, and at the beginning of the year, handy for prognostications. There is no particular reason why gold, or precious metal generally, should rise in price this year. Indeed, there is weighty evidence to the contrary. But a still, quiet voice tells me that the average for 1986 could be respectably higher than for 1985. That would be easy from a statistical point of view. Gold averaged \$318 an ounce last year, its lowest average since 1978, and much less than the \$360 of 1984. Trading volume in both hutton and futures was slack. The collapse of Commodity Sales and InterGold's eventual suspension of its sales programme indicated an exceptionally depressed consumer interest in gold. As is so often true in the gold market, investors had good reason to be disenchanted.

Since 1980 mine production in the West has risen by 25 per cent. Output last year was 1,169 tonnes, the highest since 1972. The latest edition of Metals Analysis and Outlook, published by Metals and Minerals Research Services, estimates that mined gold will be 1,200 tonnes in 1986, rivaling the peak years of the mid-1960s. If you add the 200 or so tonnes of gold sold to the West by the Eastern bloc and the 50 tonnes of net official sales (mainly Third World governments financing their debts) the total supply to the market in 1985 was 1,419 tonnes. This was slightly less than in the previous year, but total demand for fabrication was also lower at 1,173 tonnes, chiefly because of the drop from 125 tonnes to 85 tonnes used for coins. The result was that the addition to bullion holdings somewhat unreliable derived residual in these figures - was 241 tonnes against 228 tonnes in 1984. It is expected to be 250 tonnes in 1986. So far this decade the cumulative surplus of gold available to the market over and above fabrication demand has been 997 tonnes.

This is an important figure. The steady increase in mine production was promoted by the price boom which culminated in 1980; the profitability of mines at only \$200; and the political and economic slump to base metals. It was not matched, however, by an increase in the attractiveness of gold to the investor or speculator in bullion. Such people move the gold price at the margin. They bought the bullion surplus, but at ever lower prices. The physical balance of supply and demand was aggravated by external financial factors. Gold investment has suffered from the worst possible combination of decelerating inflation, high real interest rates, and the almighty dollar. The faith of even the most loyal gold bug has been sorely tested. Nevertheless, gold bugs are a resilient lot. The importance of last week's events was that they had clearly not surrendered and opened a Post Office account, despite the discouraging supply and demand forecasts for 1986 and cheerless assessments of the much more elusive interest and current exchange rates. The extraordinary sight of tumbling

oil prices alone should frighten even the most stout-hearted. So dismal a picture causes Mr David Hargreaves, in a mineral market survey by Gourlay Wolff, to forecast a 1986 average gold price in the generous range of \$250 to \$350. A worsening of the South African crisis widens the range to \$250 to \$450 an ounce. Metals and Minerals Research Services is forecasting \$300 to \$350. Gold is an emotional market, irrational even. Whether gold investors follow or anticipate events is hotly debated. After years of frustration, they are clearly ready for another bull run. Significantly, Rudolf Wolff, the leading commodity broker, has plumped for a slightly higher price than some of its competitors. It could be right. This market is more delicately balanced than the fundamentals suggest. A slight change in any of the sensitive elements in the financial-political climate surrounding gold could be enough to prove that last week was not a flash in the pan. Michael Prest

The Stockholders Investment Trust p.l.c. "On any long-term basis the US economy offers investment opportunities of exceptional promise." Alan McLintock, Chairman

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Change of name At an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on 23rd January 1986 the Board will recommend to shareholders that the name of the Trust be changed to GOVETT ATLANTIC INVESTMENT TRUST PLC The Board believes that there are positive advantages to be derived from a name which reflects the investment policy of the Trust and identifies it with its Management Group. Investment Policy The Company invests primarily for capital growth, principally in North America. To: John Govett & Co. Limited, Winchester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DH. Please send me a copy of The Stockholders Investment Trust Annual Report. Name Address John Govett & Co. Limited Management Group

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Dearer money fears

ACCOUNTANTS: Dealings Began, Jan 13. Dealings End, Jan 24. Contango Day, Jan 27. Settlement Day, Feb 3. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

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Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chg, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for INDUSTRIALS L-R, FOODS, and INDUSTRIALS A-D.

Table with columns: W, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUNDAY. Includes a note: 'Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 to Saturday's newspaper.'

Table with columns: BRITISH FUNDS. Lists various fund names and their performance metrics.

Table with columns: SHORTS (Under Five Years). Lists short-term investment options and their yields.

Table with columns: FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS. Lists medium-term investment options and their yields.

Table with columns: OVER FIFTEEN YEARS. Lists long-term investment options and their yields.

Table with columns: UNDATED. Lists undated investment options and their yields.

Table with columns: INDEX-LINKED. Lists index-linked investment options and their yields.

Table with columns: PROSPECTIVE REAL ESTATE. Lists real estate investment options and their yields.

Table with columns: BREWERIES. Lists brewery companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: BANKS DISCOUNT HP. Lists bank discount and HP rates.

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Table with columns: OIL. Lists oil companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: OVERSEAS TRADERS. Lists overseas traders companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G. Lists paper, printing, and advertising companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: LEISURE. Lists leisure companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: MINING. Lists mining companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: PROPERTY. Lists property companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: SHIPPING. Lists shipping companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: SHOES AND LEATHER. Lists shoes and leather companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: TEXTILES. Lists textiles companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: TOBACCO. Lists tobacco companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT. Lists motors and aircraft companies and their stock prices.

Table with columns: NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS. Lists newspapers and publishers companies and their stock prices.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Heseltine and the spirit of Eureka

By Richard Sarson
What do helicopters and computers have in common? Both are high technology industries...

Five years ago, the main British computer company, ICL, got into financial difficulties...

On that occasion, the Government turned its back on market forces. The reason they gave for this abandonment of non-interventionist principle...

By not doing so, he may have jeopardized future collaborative high-tech projects. The Europeans have always held the view that the British, and the present government in particular, only pay lip service to European cooperation...

Now, the Europeans will shrug their shoulders. When the chips are down, they will say, the British always scurry off to the Americans for help...

After Westland, the Europeans will think twice about cooperative ventures or bids for British companies, even though the fragmented nature of the European computer market demands restructuring...

One can only hope that the spirit of Eureka survives the Heseltine affair.

New models offer little glamour

THE WEEK

By Matthew May

The Which Computer? Show, at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham last week reflected little but conservatism...

Even the usual bevy of scantily-clad models, almost de rigueur for the dynamic exhibitor in previous years, had dwindled sharply...

Equally, the sombre mood of the show did not lend itself to many gimmicks. One company hired the actress Stephanie Lawrence and a £3 million diamond to show its "flawless" product...

Whereas during the past two years producing products that are compatible with IBM's personal computer standard has dominated shows, this is the year of picture-based operating systems...

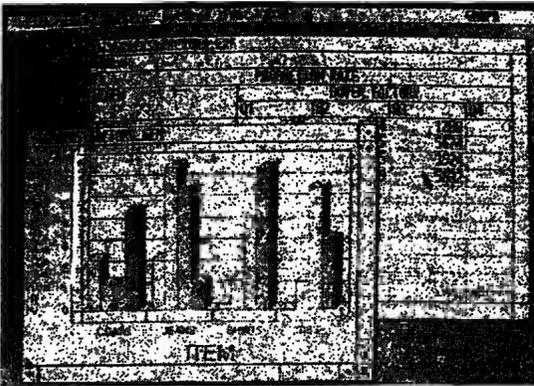
Ironically, these systems, which provide pictures and symbols of computer functions in an attempt to

make them easier to use, were pioneered on the Apple Macintosh computer which refused steadfastly to sell in the quantities expected...

Elsewhere at the exhibition several packages were on show for the current runaway success in the "serious-computing-at-home" market. Amstrad's £459 business computer. So far it has been seen chiefly as a word processor - the software for it is included in the purchase price...

The problem for software developers is price. Customers, who have paid less than £500 for a system will be unwilling to pay the several hundred pounds that some software packages can command for micros that cost £2,000 to £5,000...

But for Amstrad these are the problems of success and the company is running out of ideas to enter more directly into competition against the established business micro manu-



Picture-based software: One way of making computers easier to use

facturers with the launch of an £800 IBM-compatible personal computer. Alan Sugar, managing director and chairman of Amstrad, now looks all set to replace Sir Clive Sinclair, who is no longer acceptable as the luminary of the micro revolution and perhaps reflects the increasing importance of shrewd marketing rather than technical wizardry...

Japanese come back with extra muscle

By David Guest
Japanese micro makers are coming out strongly for the second round in the battle for personal computer sales...

Seven Japanese suppliers - Epson, Fujitsu, Panasonic, Sanyo, Sharp, Sony and Toshiba - gave the first public demonstrations of new business micros last week. Two of these announced an increased marketing effort in the UK and two others - Canon and NEC - showed off enhancements to their current product lines...

All but one of these nine companies have now fallen into step by recognizing the standard set by the IBM PC. During the past three years the group has achieved a total market share estimated at less than 15 per cent as buyers shied away from computers that would not operate the most popular software packages...

But the Japanese are now back in the mainstream and they could prove to have a significant edge over the mass of IBM's imitators. They have a fine reputation for the quality of their engineering and they make the most of technology...

Three of the new Japanese systems at the Which Computer? show were portables, two of moderate weight and one in the heavyweight class. Sharp's PC 7000 crams 384K of memory, two floppy disks, a backlit liquid display (LCD) and a keyboard into a package that weighs 11lbs...

The backlit LCD is easier to read than earlier unit versions but neither is a patch on the gas plasma display installed by Toshiba on its T2100 and T3100...

Toshiba has finally set up a marketing operation in Britain. Panasonic is also intent on promoting more of its own products rather than building them for other suppliers, and it was also showing off gas plasma display technology on the 25th JB-3501...



Tosh's new shiba: The portable 3100 claims the power of an IBM PC-AT. Using gas plasma technology for the screen provides a clearer picture than LCDs but uses too much power to run off batteries. Prices start at £3,300 with the AT version at £3,700

Sony's SMC-210, launched a week earlier, has the same base price but much less weight at 11lbs. It offers more memory - 640K - but less legibility with a conventional LCD screen...

Among the desk-top suppliers, Sanyo added the MBC-385 to its range and Epson showed the Text PC. Both systems are PC-compatible and both will aim to make their mark with low prices. Ironically, Sanyo is concerned about possible competition from cheap machines from Taiwan...

The only major Japanese manufacturer that still has no taste for full IBM compatibility is Fujitsu, which launched a multi-user system. It has taken the Pick operation system from the minicomputer environment and put it on to a system that will support six users for about £12,000...

The Japanese regard personal computing as a long-term prospect. The spectre of Japan Inc. may have retreated, but other suppliers face a battle of attrition.

Hi-tech makes a US touchdown

As the American football season reaches its climax with the Superbowl final next Sunday, RICHARD PAWSON looks at how computers are moving into the gridiron game



To some outsiders, American football is a mindless game - a contest of brute force at best, brutality at worst. But to the growing ranks of British fans Channel 4's Sunday-night audience has grown from two million to four million in just one season, the appeal is at least as intellectual as it is physical...

Each play of the ball is as premeditated as a chess move. So it is hardly surprising that computers are playing an increasingly important role in the game, from training to televised presentation...

Computers are perhaps most prominent in the commentary box, where revered commentators such as John Madden use the CBS Chalkboard (a video effects computer) to trace the manoeuvres of individual players for the instant replays. An impressive array of statistics can be recalled to the screen: how far a player can carry the ball in his entire career...

Such statistics are compiled on a mainframe by the organizing body, the National Football League (NFL), but it is not uncommon for local clubs to run their own minis - such as the Minnesota Vikings on DEC 11/780. This might sound like an expensive idea until you consider that the combined cost of a team's protective padding is more than \$100,000 (about £70,000) and that top players' salaries exceed \$1 million a year...

Individual teams compile their own statistics, not so much for the hall of fame, but to identify weaknesses in their own tactics, as trends in the strategy of their opponents. The New York Jets recently aban-

doned their mini, in favour of IBM's ATs, XT's and Compaqs. The portable opens up the possibility of computers on the playing field - well, on the sidelines at any rate. With injuries playing a major role in American football, and sports medicine becoming increasingly complex, databases of players' medical records and possible treatments are becoming essential...

But it is the coaches who make best use of the microcomputers: almost all NFL players are recruited from the American college and university leagues, so that scouts for the Denver Broncos now use portable computers equipped with modems to compile data on potential recruits and file it back to base...

Even the amateur teams in the UK are taking up the idea, spurred on by a £1.5 million sponsorship from Budweiser to establish a national league. Mark Carter, an ICL programmer, who functions as a defensive back for the Thames Valley Chargers in his spare time, keeps the club's record on an ICL PC...

He said: "I can feed in the statistics of our opposition before the game, and identify potential weak spots in our defence, for example."

But if artificial intelligence makes the mark expected of it, even the jobs of the coaches could be in jeopardy. Expert systems are now being developed to predict what a team is most likely to attempt in a given situation: nine yards from the goal line, will the players run with the ball or pass it? Such aids may well be disallowed by the NFL, however - in the same way that teams are allowed to use instant-print cameras during a game to analyse play, but not video...

Even the sag before the science-fiction scenario of sport played entirely by robots becomes fact?

Setting a new standard for a sterling sign

By Mark Needham

A few frustrating hours spent trying to display a pound sign on a microcomputer or on a printer shows that the British market is not always high on the priorities of US and Japanese manufacturers which dominate the business micro world...

The problem is, one of conflicting standards. Most of the keys on a keyboard have a standard numeric code number, which is used by all microcomputer manufacturers. The letter "A", for example is always represented by the number 65...

As you would expect from a character set that is called the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) the dollar sign also has a standard code, number 36...

The pound sign has no universally agreed code number. On many systems the pound sign shares number 35 with the hash sign. This frequently leads to hash signs appearing where pound signs were intended...

To avoid this problem, some manufacturers have picked a

separate, unoccupied code number for the pound sign. In later releases of the operating system for the IBM PC, code number 156 has been reserved for the pound.

Most printer manufacturers, including Epson, have adopted a different system. Their printers contain different character sets for different nations. When the British character set is in use, the pound replaces the hash sign by using 35...

On the earliest printers the only way to get a pound sign is to print a capital L, then a back space, the overprint the L with a minus sign.

British users of the financial spreadsheet Lotus 1-2-3 had so much difficulty making a pound sign appear that one enterprising company wrote and marketed a cunning program to insert pound signs into spreadsheets. Unfortunately for them Lotus has at last turned its attention towards Europe and is advertising an improved version of its product, which it says, supports European currency formats...

The magic box on the Cabinet table

The quick march of computer evolution can best be illustrated if I paint an imaginary picture. Supposing that in the course of the next decade computer manufacturers eliminate the teething troubles that inevitably beset the introduction of new and intricate equipment. By that time a final advance will have taken place in the field of voice recognition, so that computers will be able, not only to illuminate the screen of a word processor but to recognize a human voice and to mimic it when answering...

Hence there will be occasions when it will not be necessary to use the screen of a word processor in order to communicate with the new computer. The advance publicity will dwell on the fact that no invention of the twentieth century has the dazzling ability to think for itself, to be intelligent and above all to possess brain enough to solve



Major General Leslie de Malapert Thullier, assistant secretary in the Cabinet Office from 1958 to 1967, concludes his forecast on the impact of high technology on 10 Downing Street

the world's greatest problems. The bureaucrats in Whitehall will fall over themselves in their haste to install machines which, at a stroke, are going to simplify their daily labours. I can do no more than concentrate on the manner in which Cabinet business may be conducted...

The 52nd Prime Minister enters the Cabinet room followed by the secretary to the Cabinet. In the middle of the Cabinet table, between two glass candlesticks, a small casket reposes on a square of green baize. A grey cable disappears over the far

edge of the table. The casket contains the fifth-generation computer with its ability to think intelligently but to be soulless.

The Prime Minister gives it a sour look, an expression of distaste for the task ahead. At 11 o'clock the usual cabinet starting time, the computer is switched on. It has been programmed to offer solutions to important matters.

From the computer the voice of the Prime Minister says: "Good morning, Prime Minister. I am ready to answer your first question. Pray proceed."

The Prime Minister turns to his secretary and says: "I am not going to stand for this," and rises... but on second thoughts sits down again, determined to see this exchange through to the end. And so the question and answer session between man and silicon-man goes ahead.

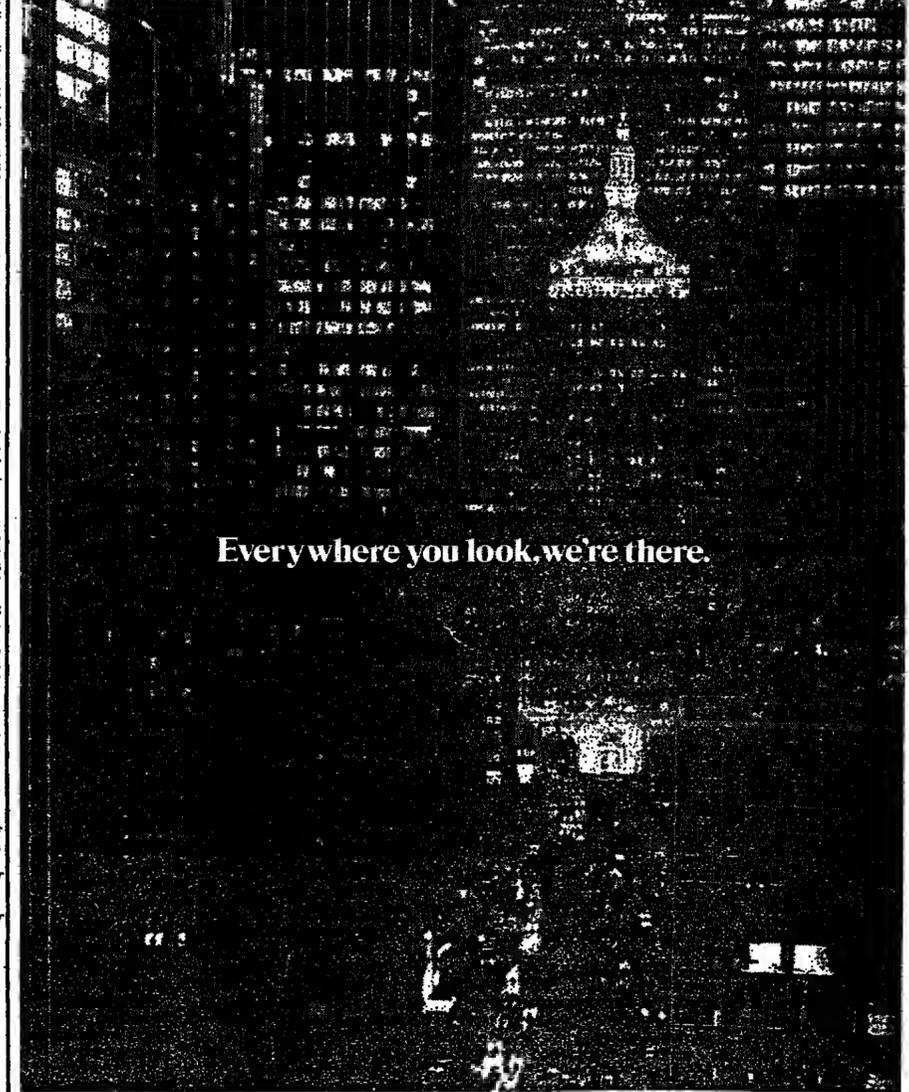
Seismic consequences for government offices

There is nothing for the secretary to the Cabinet to do. He knows that the session will be recorded in the memory of the computer.

If he shuts his eyes he could be pardoned for believing that the Prime Minister was communicating with himself, answering his own questions. When the Cabinet meeting is over, the Prime Minister rises and stalks out muttering to his secretary: "You are not going to inflict that on me again."

There is reality enough in that chilling little cameo to show that the arrival of a fifth-generation computer on the world stage could have seismic consequences for the Cabinet, for ministers and for those who work in the Cabinet Office.

How much reality is there in my fictional scenario? It is idle to pretend that I can lightly dismiss predictions of the Olympians of the computer world that thinking, intelligent



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RACING

Polar Sunset to confirm his rich promise

Following that encouraging run behind the Catchpool, Braunston Brook and Brass Change at Lingfield Park four weeks ago, Polar Sunset is named to tip the Heather Novice Chase at Chepstow this afternoon.



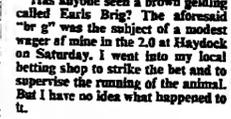
Oyster Pond recently second at Chepstow, returns for today's Ralph Morel Cup.

That he has recaptured his sparkling form of last season. So far this winter, he has been somewhat luckless. I believe he has the best chance that John Webber, his trainer, and George Merragh, his jockey, have of collecting this afternoon's money. This is the Group Handicap Chase.

Course specialists

CHEPSTOW: TRAINER: P. Winter, 18 winners from 78 runners. 23.1% F. Foster, 10 from 73, 20.5% N. Henderson, 8 from 40, 20.0% J. G. Moore, 20 winners from 104 runs, 22.8% R. Ross, 13 from 57, 22.8% M. Moore, 8 from 43, 18.6%.

That's the way the money goes - in vision as well as sound



Simon Barnes: 'Has anyone seen a brown gelding called Earls Brig? The afforsaid "br g" was the subject of a modest wager of mine in the 2.0 at Haydock on Saturday. I went into my local betting shop to strike the bet and to supervise the running of the animal. But I have no idea what happened to it.'

I stood and drank in that wonderful, oracular, emotion-starved voice from the Exter blower. It picked up the race commentary, its Comby Dick and Door Leitch, stilled between these two. "I had heard not a whisper about Earls Brig! I left, reeling under a savage attack of the betting shop punter's occupational disease: the sour taste of having been on the wrong end of an imagined conspiracy of the wealthy."

But, as the shackles of law are shrugged off, the tech will get yet higher. Not only will the betting law be insisted on, but betting shops as uncomfortable as possible so that people will not "fall" in them. The law pretends to be to protect people actually did spend a long time in betting shops, even though they had to stand up and listen to the blower.

CHEPSTOW

- 1.45 HEATHER NOVICE CHASE (21.84; 2m 4f) (18 runners)
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In all cases, we shall seek from applicants, who may be solicitors or barristers, evidence of initiative and intellectual dexterity coupled with the ability to communicate at a senior level within a fast-paced, progressive yet informal and friendly environment. A good academic background, ideally to at least 2.1 degree standard, should, preferably, be complemented by broadly-based articles.

In addition to highly competitive remuneration, we offer excellent scope for career development in a City practice.

Please write in confidence with a full curriculum vitae to Tim Street, Durrant Piesse, 73 Cheapside, London EC2V 6ER.

**DURRANT PIESSE**

## BURGES SALMON BRISTOL

If you are practical, academically able and ambitious and would like to specialise we can offer you opportunities in the following areas of practice:-

### Commercial Litigation

A wide variety of demanding work for Commercial, Industrial, Banking and Insurance Clients. Whilst you should have good basic knowledge of the procedures and organisation of contentious work, you should also be willing to adapt a flexible approach to problem solving outside the conventions of litigation where this is possible.

### Commercial Property

You would have a heavy workload of Commercial Property transactions involving Planning, Development and Landlord and Tenant work.

The Work in each of the above fields is of high quality. We invite applications from candidates who have a minimum of two years admitted experience in the relevant specialties. Salary is unlikely to present a problem for the right applicants. For first class people the prospects are excellent. Anyone who knows Bristol will confirm that it is a lively and attractive place to live and work.

Please apply with full CV indicating the post which interests you to Peter Laws, Burges Salmon, Narrow Quay House, Prince Street, Bristol BS1 4AR.

### Contentious Landlord & Tenant

You would specialise in disputes concerning Agricultural and Business Tenancies, and should be prepared to master the intricacies of this complex field. Your Clients will include Institutional as well as Private Landlords and Farming as well as Commercial and Industrial Tenants.

### Private Client

You will be involved with a wide variety of work for substantial Private Clients including Trusts and Wills with particular emphasis on the Tax aspects of Family and Commercial arrangements for landed Estates.

## Company and Commercial Corporate Finance

Our client is a well known and progressive firm of London solicitors, who have grown rapidly over the past few years and continue to expand. It has a varied general practice and a strong commercial bias.

It now has a need for additional high calibre people in its company and commercial department. The work is varied and demanding with a strong emphasis upon public company clients, particularly in the areas of financial services and the oil and gas industry. There is also a significant element of corporate finance work.

You should have been qualified for at least a year and have gained some experience in public company or banking work, either with a major provincial or well known City firm. These positions offer a challenging opportunity to become actively involved in the further development of this side of the practice, and highly competitive remuneration packages will be offered.

If you are interested or wish to know more please telephone or write to John Cameron, quoting ref. C496, at 11 Gough Square, London EC4A 3DE (telephone 01-583 3911).

**Chetwynd Streets**

Management Selection Limited

## BADENOCH & CLARK

### TAX CONSULTANT

£20,000 + Bonus + Bens

Our client, a leading firm of Solicitors based in the City, requires a Personal Tax Specialist to assist the existing in-house consultant. Dealing with all aspects of partnership taxation, the selected individual will join a small established team of Management Accountants.

This is an important role, involving compliance and planning work; the provision of advice on the acquisition and disposal of assets; expatriate tax and double tax treaties, advising partners on the tax implications of transfers to Overseas Offices.

Applications are invited from candidates with a recognised professional qualification (ACA/ACCA/ATII), or from fully trained Inspectors within the Inland Revenue. The appointed person will be in the age range of thirty to forty, will have a confident yet discreet personality, and will greatly enjoy the benefits of working for a highly respected and well established major legal practice. Please contact **Timothy Bourage** or **Rachel Caine**.

Legal and Financial Recruitment Specialists  
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU  
Telephone: 01-583 0073

### WIMBLEDON MAGISTRATES COURTS COMMITTEE

Wimbledon Magistrates Court

### COURT CLERK CC/PAD 1-12

£8,178-£12,072 + London Weighting

Applications are invited from Barristers, Solicitors and other persons suitably qualified for appointment to this newly created post which will be available from the 1st April 1986, as a result of the increasing size of the Division.

Preference will be given to those applicants able to take all courts without supervision, but other less experienced candidates will also be considered.

The person appointed will join a young, expanding, forward looking and professional team and consequently can expect a broadening of experience both in terms of court work and administrative duties.

Starting salary will be dependent upon qualifications and experience. The post is supernumerary and the J.M.C. conditions of service will apply.

Application forms may be obtained from the address below and should be returned no later than the 14th February 1986.

E Packer, Clerk to the Justices, King House, 1a Kings Road, London SW19 8LW. 01-543 4154

### New Year - New Partnership

### DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Are your partnership ambitions frustrated? Have your efforts gone unrewarded? Well, financial new London practice that has more quality work than it can handle urgently seeks energetic young solicitor of high calibre and experience. Immediate partnership prospects. Apply in confidence with full C.V., Box No 1578 L, The Times.

### TAX LAWYER

Small, prestigious firm providing tax advice to wealthy and influential individuals is seeking an assistant who is capable of becoming a partner in the very short term. Applicants should be Barristers or Solicitors, ideally having previous tax experience, but this is not essential. If you have an appetite for hard work, have an outgoing and amiable personality, and are looking for an excellent salary commensurate with those qualities please write, with full C.V. to Miss A. J. Clark, Inghenag & Co., 37-39 Southampton Row, London EC4M 1DT.

### LOCUM SERVICE

Locum Solicitors & Legal Executives available COUNTRYWIDE 01-248 1139 ASA LAW FOR LOCUM & PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS FOR SOLICITORS 8/7 Ludgate Square, Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7AS

### BARRISTERS

Common Law Chambers in Temple Chambers have vacancies for 3 members with own practices between 5-10 years call. CV to Clerk to Chambers Mr Paul Staplehurst, 41 The Avenue, Glyceray, Essex CM12 9HG.

### EAST HAMPSHIRE

Newly admitted Solicitor/Legal Executive who can work with minimum supervision required to handle (mainly domestic) conveyancing. Ability to take on some litigation would be an advantage but not essential. Salary according to experience. Some CV to: Roger Petch Mackerness & Lunt 76 High Street Petersfield Hampshire GU23 3JJ (Tel: 0735) 65171

### LAW GRADUATE

Required for a busy legal department in the north London area. Managerial duties and commercial litigation. No experience necessary. Full training given. Salary negotiable. CONTACT B.J. FREEMAN ON 01-448 9271

### Kennedys

have the following vacancies for its expanding City Office.

### INSURANCE/REINSURANCE RELATED LITIGATION!!

Three Assistant Solicitors capable of dealing with Professional Indemnity, Product Liability, Construction, and other insurance related litigation. Previous experience in this field is essential.

### EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY

A Solicitor or Legal Executive/Manager to deal with Employers' Liability litigation, preferably with experience of acting for insurers.

### GERMAN SPEAKER

An Assistant, whether admitted or unadmitted, to deal with a wide range of contentious cases, mainly with an insurance element. A command of written and spoken German is essential.

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

An Assistant Solicitor capable of handling a variety of both contentious and non-contentious Intellectual Property work and related commercial contracts.

Written applications are invited with full C.V., to the Staff Partner,

### Kennedys

Longbow House, 14/20 Chiswell Street London EC1Y 4TY.

## BADENOCH & CLARK

### RECENTLY ADMITTED SOLICITORS

**CORPORATE BANKING** to £20,000 Our client, an extremely successful Merchant Bank, requires additional staff for Corporate Banking. Duties will include structuring complex financial packages. Candidates should have some familiarity with lending related transactions and the ability to market products to substantial corporate clients.

**CORPORATE FINANCE** to £20,000 On behalf of two of our clients, a Merchant Bank and a large Stockbroker, we are recruiting young Solicitors in their mid to late 20's who have served articles with a substantial City firm. Successful candidates will become involved in mergers/acquisitions and general corporate advisory work with the bank and, for the Stockbroker, the work will include U.S.M. listings.

To discuss these and many other opportunities currently available, please contact: Robert Dighty, Judith Farmer or John Cullen.

Legal and Financial Recruitment Specialists  
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU  
Telephone: 01-583 0073

**CAPITAL MARKETS** to £25,000 We have been retained by a number of leading Merchant, Investment and International banks to provide high calibre Solicitors from leading City firms for a variety of legal advisory and documentation positions, which offer exciting prospects of moving into front-line banking positions.

**BANKING - CITY** to £18,000 Two of our clients, both leading City practices, are seeking newly qualified Solicitors and those with up to three years post qualification experience, for their expanding banking department. The work is internationally based and highly stimulating with excellent rewards and prospects for career progression for high calibre lawyers.

### NEWLY QUALIFIED SOLICITOR BRUSSELS

An International Financial Services Group with Corporate Headquarters in Brussels, seeks to appoint a young, newly qualified Solicitor, as Assistant to the Vice President, Administration, in Brussels. General experience in company, property, commercial and some litigation, would be considered advantageous. Salary negotiable. Interviews will be held in London. Write with full CV to Box 1218 N, The Times.

### Court Associates GENERAL PRACTITIONER Camberley, Surrey

£ Highly competitive + car This well regarded Family Practice has amalgamated with a substantial progressive Mid Essex based firm. As a result, they require a committed solicitor with the fitness and ability to maintain and develop the Practice. Preferably qualified about two years with general practice experience, he/she will be interested in litigation involving matrimonial law and advocacy. As well as offering a generous remuneration package including a firm's car, the opportunity presents considerable scope for individual expression, with substantial support from a well structured organisation. Prospects are to be viewed in the context that only applicants of partnership calibre will be considered. Call 01-583 8055 17 Fleet St, London EC4A 1AA Professional Recruitment Consultants

## Commercial Management

National Nuclear Corporation Limited wishes to recruit a legally qualified person to undertake a diverse and interesting new role in its contractual and corporate activities, based at the Company headquarters in Knutsford, Cheshire.

We require a professional who has commercial experience directly relevant to the business of the Company which is the design, engineering, procurement and the management of construction of capital plant projects and the provision of consultancy services. An ability to negotiate contracts and to provide post-contract support is essential.

In addition, the successful candidate will be expected to advise senior management on a range of other matters affecting the proper running of the Company. To reflect the contractual bias of the job, the incumbent will report to the General Manager, Contracts Division, but there will, on corporate matters, be a functional link with the Finance Director and Company Secretary.

This is a challenging position which will require a flexibility of approach and a broad range of interest and understanding of the legal and commercial requirements of the Company's business.

The ideal candidate will be aged between 30 and 35 and will have the personal qualities to be able to represent the Company successfully at all levels.

An attractive salary will be offered to the successful applicant in addition to first class terms and conditions of employment. Assistance with relocation expenses will be given where appropriate.

If you are interested in this excellent career opportunity, please send a detailed CV (Quoting Reference RI 12/7) to:

Miss K. A. Ross, National Nuclear Corporation Limited, Booths Hall, Chelford Road, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 8QZ. Telephone: Knutsford (0565) 3800 Ext. 3602.

**NNC**

National Nuclear Corporation Limited

### LITIGATION

#### Solicitor WC2

Aldwych practice with strong commercial bias seeks able solicitor to join the Litigation Department of this small, friendly firm. Our work is varied and interesting involving High Court and County Court matters with some matrimonial. Preference will be given to applicants with about two years experience although a newly admitted solicitor will be considered. Please send full CV, to: Richard Frew, Ashburn, 99 Aldwych, London, WC2.

**HIGH CALIBRE Commercial Litigation** solicitor with 4 years post-qualified progressive central Essex practice. £ V attractive prospects. Law Personnel. 01-282 2222

**BRANCH SOLICITOR** with sound sound commercial experience for busy City town firm. All rounds preferred. Good prospects. £14,000. West Coast. 01-282 2222

**N LONDON practice** requires recently working in commercial supervisory work. £14,000. West Coast. 01-282 2222

## Senior Trust Solicitor Bermuda

A Senior Trust Solicitor is required by Appleby, Spurling & Kempe. Applicants must have at least 5 years' post-qualification experience in all aspects of private client work with particular emphasis on trusts and settlements. Applicants should also have a good understanding of personal and trust taxation and be able to advise international and domestic clients on estate planning matters, wills and probate practice. A good knowledge of company law would be useful. A pleasing and outgoing personality is essential. Interviews will be held in London. Please send full cv, which will be forwarded to Bermuda unopened, quoting Ref: R2077/T.

**PA PA Advertising**

Hyde Park House, 6th Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE. Tel: 01-235 8090 Telex: 2274

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Performing Right Society invites applications from solicitors/barristers interested in intellectual property. The Society is a substantial organisation administering the broadcasting and public performance rights of composers and publishers of music. It is heavily involved in the protection of these rights, and the promotion of the copyright cause, nationally and internationally. The requirement is for a lawyer likely to be in the age range of 24-32 years of good academic achievement and strong practical bent, keen to use legal skills in the wider context of arts administration. A sound knowledge of French is essential.

Salary (with a wide range of benefits) negotiable according to age and experience.

Applications (accompanied by a recent photograph), marked "Confidential-L/A", should reach the Director of External Affairs, Performing Right Society Ltd., 29/33 Berners Street, London W1P 4AA by 11 February.

**The Performing Right Society Limited**



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERKS DEPARTMENT** This post is now being offered on an unrestricted basis through the ring fence procedure, with the agreement of the London and Metropolitan Government Staff Commission. Applications will be welcomed from employees of the GLC and Metropolitan County Councils.

### Assistant Solicitor

(Conveyancing) £12,543-£13,578 inc. p.a. The Council require an Assistant Solicitor to join the Conveyancing Team of their Legal Section. In addition to conveyancing work, the successful candidate will be expected to deal with a variety of work in the areas of general advice to other departments of the Council and to play a role in the training and supervision of junior staff. Experience in Local Government is not essential, however, experience in the field of leasehold property would be an advantage. Form from Head of Personnel Services, Municipal Offices, Twickenham TW1 3AA (01-891 7112) returnable by 7th February, 1986.

**London Borough of RICHMOND UPON THAMES** (an equal opportunity employer)

01-837 0668

# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## Company Lawyer

To £25,000 + Car

Feeling hemmed in by a City practice? Want to participate in decision-making? Like to join a fast-moving company team? Then this could be the opportunity for you.

This is a key role which has involved, during the last 18 months, an ADR issue in the US, a USS Convertible Bond issue in the UK, negotiating management buy-outs, setting up a joint venture in Indonesia and a wide variety of banking, company and commercial work. We expect the future to be just as exciting.

You will have a good academic qualification, relevant financial and corporate background gained in the City and the ability to communicate effectively at a senior level.

Interested? Then send a C.V. to:  
**Bob McCall, Personnel Manager, at 1-4 Connaught Place, London W2 2EX. Telephone 01-262 1212.**

Cadbury Schweppes

## NABARRO NATHANSON

### COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL LAWYERS

We are seeking to recruit additional lawyers of outstanding ability for our expanding Company and Commercial Department.

A heavy, but varied, workload will encompass both public and private company work as well as general and international commercial transactions. Opportunities to specialise within these fields are available.

Successful candidates will have a practical commercial approach and an ability to relate to a wide range of institutional and corporate clients.

Not less than one year's relevant experience is required.

Salary and prospects are excellent.

Applications with full CVs to John Hare FCIS, Partnership Secretary, Nabarro Nathanson, 76 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6NR.



Our client is a medium-sized City law firm.

## Partner

Another Partner is required by the firm's specialist banking group whose practice covers the complete range of domestic and international corporate commercial banking and other financing transactions on behalf of banks and institutions.

## Banking

Age 30-35. Immediate Partnership. Terms will be substantial and tailored accordingly.

In strict confidence please telephone or write to either **Cyril Batchelor OBE** or **Denis Reed at The Room Twelve Partnership, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0HP. 01-583 4847/4929.**

## City

ROOM TWELVE

Recruitment of Lawyers

### RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

A young high calibre solicitor, qualified for one to two years, to join our residential conveyancing department dealing with the broadest range of properties. A high degree of client contact and a busy workload calls for applicants with an intelligent, enthusiastic and efficient approach. The successful candidate will be able to take the initiative and to give effective and practical advice on all aspects of buying and selling residential property as part of a busy team backed by the latest in computer technology. We are offering a highly competitive remuneration package to the right individual. Please write in confidence with full curriculum vitae to our staff partner, John Skelton.

### WITHERS

20 Essex Street • Strand • London WC2R 3AL

### CORIATS (CARIBBEAN) LIMITED LAWYER

CORIATS are a leading independent Trust Company, well established as advisers to a multinational variety of corporate and private clients. We require a young but polished Lawyer to join staff at our principal office in Grand Turk, British West Indies.

The appointment offers significant potential as a key member of our compact team, for a Lawyer able to handle the dramatic as well as the mundane with equal competence and personality.

A broad range of company, commercial, company and tax work is involved, all in an international context, and often instructed by major firms. This represents an unusual opportunity to apply professional skills in a rewarding and diverse manner. Salary will also be competitive, and tax-free.

Prerequisite requirements include age under 35, and 2 to 3 years of relevant post-qualification experience as a solicitor with a major City or West End firm, or possibly as an employed Barrister with a City Institution.

It is intended to complete the selection process with a minimum of delay. Applicants meeting the above requirements are therefore requested in the first instance to telephone Mr. Christopher Coriat in London on (01) 906 0782 between 8.30 a.m. and 9.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 22 January, 1986.

**CORIATS (CARIBBEAN) LIMITED**  
 Sabre House, P.O. Box 171  
 Grand Turk  
 British West Indies

## Legal Professional

c.£20,000 + car

Wang (UK) is a major force in the computer and office automation marketplace with sales in the last financial year in excess of £100m with the confident expectation of another year of significant growth. We are a company that recognises the importance of an individual's contribution and we provide a unique environment to utilise your expertise and knowledge to the full.

We are currently looking for a qualified professional to assist our Legal Counsel in a new and challenging role. The emphasis will be on handling the company's contracts - through

drafting, negotiating, and amending legal agreements. You will be dealing with many top industrial names, both on a national and international basis.

Aged 25-30, you should be a qualified Solicitor with ambition, initiative and commercial experience, preferably within the computer industry. Knowledge of other corporate legal areas would be a distinct advantage, as there may well be opportunities to extend your areas of responsibility.

In addition to a substantial salary, benefits include a company car, pension, life assurance, medical and stock purchase schemes.

Please send full career details to Pam Segal, Wang (UK) Limited, Wang House, 661 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4EH. Or telephone 01-847 1954 (24-hour answering service) for an application form.

## WANG

## LEGAL AID SOLICITORS

£11,156 - £20,433 London  
 £9,729 - £19,006 National

LONDON, BRIGHTON, READING, CARDIFF AND CAMBRIDGE

The Law Society intends to appoint an additional Solicitor in each of the Legal Aid Offices referred to above in connection with the 24 hour duty solicitor scheme to be established in accordance with provisions in the Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984. Those appointed will be expected to undertake the general civil and criminal legal work of an Area Office in addition to assisting with the establishment of the 24 hour scheme. Candidates should have practical experience of both civil and criminal Legal Aid. There are promotion prospects to £26,400 per annum and above.

The offices concerned are situated in London, Brighton, Reading, Cardiff and Cambridge, and applicants are asked to indicate in which office they seek appointment.

The commencing salary will take account of experience and will not necessarily be at the range minimum.

Conditions of service include 25 working days leave, annual salary review and increments, and a contributory superannuation scheme with dependants provision.

Applicants who would like additional information are invited to telephone the Personnel Manager on 01-353 7411.

Write in confidence by the 7th February 1986, giving full details of education, experience, employment, present salary and date available, to: Personnel Manager, Legal Aid, Legal Aid Head Office, The Law Society, Newspaper House, 8-16 Great New Street, London, EC4 3BN.



## Redbridge

London Borough DIRECTORATE OF ADMINISTRATION & LEGAL SERVICES

### SENIOR SOLICITOR

An increasing workload together with changes in legislation in recent years has led to the creation of this new senior professional post to work closely with existing professional staff.

The postholder will be expected to undertake advocacy and assist in the conduct of litigation in the Magistrates', County, and High Courts across the whole range of the Council's activities. An important part of the responsibilities will be in the Social Services field dealing with juvenile Court, adoption, child care and wardship matters.

There will also be a high level of involvement in the provision of legal advice to Departments of the Council and the preparation and presentation of the Council's case at public inquiries. Together with attendance at an providing advice to Council Committees.

This is an extremely challenging opportunity for an able Solicitor to gain an insight into a wide variety of Local Authority activities. Applicants should have approximately three years post qualification experience and experience of Social Services matters would be an advantage.

The post is graded PO3 and a salary of up to £14,718 is payable.

For an informal discussion about the post ring Mr E. Davis (Deputy Director) on 01-478 3020 extension 182.

Application forms and further details from Director of Administration & Legal Services, London Borough of Redbridge, Town Hall, High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1TD (telephone 01-478 3020 extension 342).

Closing date: 13 February 1986.

This post is subject to the LMSGC ring fence procedure; with their agreement it is now being offered on an unrestricted basis. Applications are invited from anyone with appropriate qualifications or experience, but priority will be given to employees of the G.L.C. or N.C.C's.

Comptroller and City Solicitor Corporation of London

### Senior Conveyancer

Salary up to £19,224 Inclusive

A highly experienced Conveyancer is required to handle commercial landlord and tenant work with personality and skill to manage one of three sections in the Property Division of this office.

Benefits include generous holidays, season ticket and car loan facilities.

To find out more about this position you are invited to telephone Laurence Bentley on 01-806 3030 ext. 2670 or for an application form ext. 2986 quoting reference 0170 or write to:

Comptroller and City Solicitor Department  
 P.O. Box 270 Guildhall EC2P 2EJ

Completed applications must be returned by Monday, 3rd February 1986.

This post is subject to the LMSGC ring fence procedure; with their agreement it is now being offered on an unrestricted basis. Applications are invited from anyone with appropriate qualifications or experience, but priority will be given to employees of the G.L.C. or N.C.C's.

## INTERNATIONAL BANKING LAWYERS

LONDON

BAHRAIN SINGAPORE HONG KONG

We carry on our international banking practice in each of these important financial and commercial centres. If you are a qualified and ambitious lawyer experienced in financial work we would like you to join us.

Applicants must have a good academic record and have had some experience of banking, corporate finance or securities work. Successful applicants will join one of our banking groups in London and may subsequently be offered the opportunity to join one of our foreign offices.

Apply with full curriculum vitae to:

## Coward Chance

Royex House, Aldermanbury Sq. London EC3V 7LD (attention: Delta Pegg)

## WESSEX REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

### Senior Assistant Solicitor

Scale 27 (£14,150-£18,045)

### Assistant Solicitor

Scale 23 (£12,927-£16,313)

Wessex Regional Health Authority invites applications for these two posts in its Legal Division.

The duties of the Senior Assistant Solicitor will cover the whole range of the Division's activities including extensive personal injuries litigation, conveyancing, employment law and advisory work. Applicants for this post must have approximately 3 years experience of either civil litigation or conveyancing and a working knowledge of the other subjects mentioned above.

Applicants for the Assistant Solicitor's post may be recently or newly qualified and preferably should have some experience in civil litigation or conveyancing. The precise duties of this post will depend on the previous experience of the successful applicant.

For informal discussion please contact Mr C. H. Brown, Regional Legal Adviser, telephone Winchester 63611, extension 488.

Application forms and job descriptions available from the Personnel Department, Wessex Regional Health Authority, Highcroft, Romsey Road, Winchester, Telephone Winchester 62477 (24 hr answering).

Closing date: February 5, 1986.

MATURE CONVEYANCER 55-60 for West Country coast level Solicitors £10,000. Wessex consultants 0935-25115.

CONVEYANCER mainly domestic work with some commercial work £10,000. Wessex consultants 0935-25115.

SULLYBORD & CROFTON Young solicitors required for well established firm. Wessex Consultants 0935 25115.

CONVEYANCING/PRACTICE Assistant. Own department West Yorks. Competitive salary. Apply West 0935 510000.

YOUNG ADVOCATE/LITIGATION Solicitor. For Midlands firm to £12,500. Wessex consultants. 0935-25115.

YOUNG Legal executive for general litigation with some conveyancing £10,000. Wessex consultants 0935 25115.

PERSONAL INJURY / LITIGATION sic. 2 years PA. WCC. attractive salary with bonus scheme. Apply 0935 615000.

GREEN SPEAKING SOLICITOR. Articled Clerk or Legal Assistant required for North London Solicitors. West 0935 10000.

## LEGAL ADVISER AND COMPANY SECRETARY

c£20,000 + Car and Benefits Bournemouth

Our client is a substantial financial institution who has recently launched a new and exciting range of medical insurance products. They have now relocated to Bournemouth as part of a very rapid development programme designed to place them in the forefront of this growth market.

They are seeking a young qualified solicitor to set up and run an in-house legal department and act as Company Secretary. This is a highly visible position giving responsibility for a small team and for advising senior management and the Board on all legal matters and for ensuring that the Company complies with all aspects of Company Law.

You will be a high achiever looking to contribute significantly to the Company's success and to expand your career and responsibilities in a dynamically growing environment. Experience in insurance or a similar field would be advantageous but is not considered as important as a strong outgoing and ambitious personality.

Please write with full C.V. to me Robin Witheridge, Consultant to the Company. Your application will be treated in strictest confidence.

BDC (International) Ltd  
 83 Mansell Street London E1 8AN



## Corporate Lawyers

Theodore Goddard are looking for two hardworking and enthusiastic corporate lawyers with a minimum of one year's post-qualification experience.

Our Corporate clients range in size from major companies listed on The Stock Exchange or dealt in on the USM to companies establishing a new business. We also have a substantial international corporate practice. We advise clients on all aspects of their corporate affairs and concentrate on public company securities work, Stock Exchange and USM listings, mergers and acquisitions of public and private companies and banking, finance and insolvency.

We offer a wide range of interesting and stimulating work together with a competitive salary in a friendly office environment.

Please write to the Personnel Manager enclosing a copy of your curriculum vitae. Applications will, of course, be treated in the strictest confidence.

## THEODORE GODDARD

16 St Martin's-le-Grand, London EC1A 4EJ.

## ASSISTANT PROSECUTORS

Salary between £11,850-£15,111

As a result of the further expansion of the office of the Chief Prosecuting Solicitor, and in anticipation of its incorporation into the new Crown Prosecution Service, applications are invited from solicitors and barristers with experience of Magistrates' Court advocacy. Recently qualified lawyers with little or no experience in advocacy will be considered for initial appointment on a lower grade (currently £11,280-£12,168). The office is based in Chelmsford, but prosecutors are expected to appear in any of the Magistrates' Courts in the county. Those appointed will automatically become Crown Prosecutors in October 1986, and those with sufficient experience may be considered for appointment to a Senior Crown Prosecutor post with a maximum salary of £18,363. A full driving licence is essential.

If you would like further information, ring John Goodwin, Chief Prosecuting Solicitor, on 0245 252939. Application form and further details available from the County Personnel Office, County Hall, Chelmsford CM1 1LX (0245 267222 Ext 2017).

Closing date 14th February 1986.



also on pages 27 28 & 30





Britons look back on their ordeal with patriotic pride



Miss Darlene Patterson: sheltered by Yemenis; Miss Yvonne Berry: waded in wrapped in flags; Mrs Cheryl Marshall: the Ambassador's wife

'It has to be said, we do it in style'

Continued from page 1 Mr Lucien Lemanski, a Loyds adjuster from Chertsey, Surrey, said: "We were expecting some mild jollop from Djibouti to turn up, but it was magic seeing the Britannia, like a fairy story. The crew were absolutely fantastic."

Mr David Hays, a British Council teacher, said that once all who could be evacuated were on board, the Britannia sailed round the coast to wait just off the coast near Aden city. "The whole town was enveloped in black smoke, as if everything was burning. And then they decided to have a deck party, and the band came up and played 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow'."



Mr Peter White: disarmed nine soldiers

Letter from Manila

Where 204 voters live in one house

They have a saying in Filipino politics: It's not the votes that count, it's the counting that counts. And so it is once again in the snap election called by President Marcos to extend his two decades of rule until 1992.

Today's events

Royal engagements The Princess of Wales, Patron, Birthright, opens the Harris Birthright Research Centre for Early Pregnancy at St Mary's Hospital, WC2, 10.30.

Organ recital by Michael Haynes, Winchester College Chapel, 7.30. Organ recital by D'Arcy Trinknow, St An's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

TV top ten

- 1. Eastenders (Thu/Sun), 22.75m. 2. Eastenders (Tue/Sat), 22.75m. 3. Last of the Summer Wine, 18.10m.

Roads

London and South-east: A417: Resurfacing at junction with Grove Street and Dundee Street, Edinburgh. A74: Outside lane closures S of Eastwood Toll on A726, Renfrew.

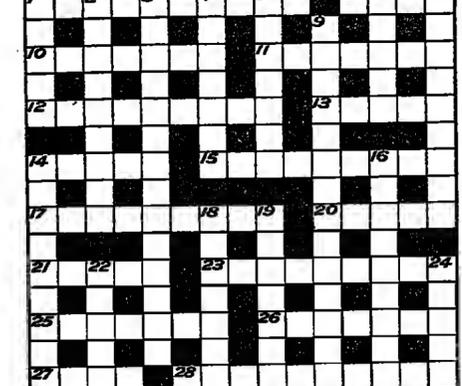
Weather forecast

A cold front will clear SE Britain, with a brisk westerly airstream becoming established over all areas.



Table with columns for location, tide times, and heights. Includes sections for 'High tides' and 'Low tides'.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,949



- 1 They admit their translations are beastly (10). 2 Rays from some stars (4). 3 Baby bird seen flying on occasion (7).

Anniversaries

Births: Thomas Jonathan ("Stonewall") Jackson, Confederate general in American Civil War, Charleston, West Virginia, 1824. Deaths: Louis XVI, executed, Paris, 1793.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies: Australia \$, Canada \$, Hong Kong \$, etc.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Atomic Energy Authority Bill, second reading. Drug Trafficking Offences Bill, second reading.

Benefit rights

The Labour Research Department has published State Benefits - a guide for trade unionists, its annual guide to benefit rights, fully updated to take account of the many, and sometimes complex changes introduced last year.

Around Britain

Table with columns for location, sun, rain, and temperature. Includes sections for 'East Coast', 'South Coast', and 'West Coast'.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Atomic Energy Authority Bill, second reading. Drug Trafficking Offences Bill, second reading.

Snow reports

Table with columns for location, depth, conditions, and weather. Includes locations like AUSTRIA, Italy, and France.

London

Yesterday: Tamer max 6 pm to 8 pm, 100 BQF, 71 per cent. Rain 24hr to 8 pm, 8.5mm.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, 11C. Lowest night temp: London, 5C.

Abroad

Table with columns for location, sun, rain, and temperature. Includes locations like Alicante, Algiers, and Athens.

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total. Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

Parliament today

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